GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.

REPORT

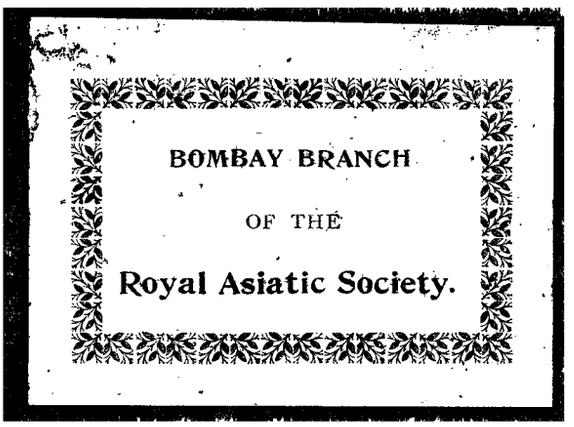
ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA

FOR

1915-1916.

00133057



Digitized with financial assistance from

Government of Maharashtra

on 01 February, 2020

BIHAR AND ORISSA

BOOK DEPÔT.

Gulzarbagh :

PATNA

Forwarded by the order of

HIS HONOUR

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

IN COUNCIL.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

BIHAR AND ORISSA

133057

1915-1916

Patna:

THE BIHAR AND ORISSA SECRETARIAT BOOK DEPÔT.

1917.

[*Price—Indian, Rs.* 5; *English, 7s.* 6*d.*]

Agents for the Sale of Books published by the Bihar and Orissa Government.

Agents in India :

(1) Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta.

(2) Messrs. W. Newman & Co., Calcutta.

(3) Messrs. S. K. Lahiri & Co., College Street, Calcutta.

(4) Messrs. A. M. & J. Ferguson, Ceylon.

(5) Messrs. R. Cambray & Co., 6 and 8-2, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

(6) Messrs. Thompson & Co., Madras.

(7) Messrs. D. B. Taraporevala, Sons & Co., 103, Meadow Street, Fort, Post Box No. 18, Bombay.

(8) Messrs. M. C. Sircar & Sons, 75, Harrison Road, Calcutta.

(9) Proprietor of the Newal Kishore Press, Lucknow.

(10) Messrs. M. N. Burman & Co., Bankipur.

(11) Babu Ram Dayal Agarwala, 184, Katra Road, Allahabad.

(12) Standard Literature Co., Ltd., 13/1, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

(13) Manager of the Indian School Supply Depôt, 309, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta.

(14) Messrs. Butterworth & Co., Ld., 6, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

Agents in England :

(1) Messrs. Constable & Co., Ltd., 10, Orange Street, Leicester Square, London, W. C.

(2) Messrs. Kegan, Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co., 68, Carter Lane, London, E..C. (Oriental Department) and 25, Museum Street, London, W. C.

(3) Mr. B. Quaritch, 11, Grafton Street, New Bond Street, London, W.

(4) Messrs. P. S. King & Son, 2 and 4, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S. W.

(5) Mr. B. H. Blackwell, 50-51, Broad Street, Oxford.

(6) Messrs. Deighton Bell & Co., Ltd., Trinity Street, Cambridge.

(7) Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., 65, Cornhill, London, E. C.

(8) Messrs. Grindlay & Co., 54, Parliament Street, London, S. W.

(9) Messrs. W. Thacker & Co., 2, Creed Lane, Ludgate Hill, London, E. C.

(10) Messrs. Luzac & Co., 46, Great Russell Street, London, W. C.

(11) Messrs. Oliver and Boyd, Tweeddale Court, Edinburgh.

(12) Messrs. E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

(13) T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., 1, Adelphi Terrace, London, W. C.

Agents on the Continent :

(1) M. Ernest Leroux, 28, Rue Bonaparte, Paris, France.

(2) Martinus Nijhoff, The Hagne, Holland.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

00133057

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

SUMMARY:

—:o:—

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

—:o:—

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.		
The Lieutenant-Governor	i	1
HEADQUARTERS OF GOVERNMENT AND THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S TOURS—		
Headquarters of Government	i	2
Tours	i	3
CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION—		
Executive Council	i	4
Appointment of Sadr Subdivisional Officers ...	ii	5
Withdrawal of powers	ii	6
New Subdivisions	ii	7
Creation of a High Court of Judicature at Patna	ii	8
Orissa Circuit Court	ii	9
STATES HAVING DIRECT POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA—		
Results of trial of persons implicated in the Khond rebellion.	ii	10
Release of the Feudatory State of Bonai ...	iii	11
Succession to the Chiefship of Bamra ...	iii	12
Contributions to the war funds ...	iii	13
CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE	iii	14
FAMINE AND FLOODS	iii	15
CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.		
REALIZATION OF REVENUE—		
Revenue and Cess	iv	16
Amendment of the Cess Act	iv	17
Minor Innovations	v	18
SURVEYS —		
Traverse Surveys	v	19
Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office ...	v	20
LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT—		
General	v	21
South Bihar	v	22
Chota Nagpur	v	23
North Bihar Revision Settlement ...	vi	24
Resurvey of the Boundary between Gorakhpur and Champaran.	vi	25
Future programme	vi	26
Final reports	vi	27

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND—*continued.*		
LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT—*continued.*		
Maintenance of Land Records	vi	28
Rules and orders	vii	29
WARDS AND ATTACHED ESTATES—		
Number under management	vii	30
Improvements	vii	31
REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES—		
Working of the Tenancy Acts	vii	32
CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.		
COURSE OF LEGISLATION	vii	33
POLICE—		
Staff	vii	34
Discipline	viii	35
Crime	viii	36
Criminal tribes	viii	37
Offences and trials	viii	38
Judicial Staff	ix	39
JAILS—		
Population	ix	40
Health and mortality	ix	41
Juvenile Jail	ix	42
Aid to discharged prisoners	ix	43
Gaya Jail Press	ix	44
Miscellaneous	ix	45
Institutions and disposals of suits and appeals	x	46
Staff	x	47
REGISTRATION—		
Comparative figures	x	48
Offices	x	49
Staff	x	50
MUNICIPALITIES AND DISTRICT BOARDS—		
District Boards	x	51
Local Boards	x	52
Union Committees	xi	53
Municipalities	xi	54
Municipal Elections	xi	55
Legislation	xi	56
Marine	xi	57

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.		
AGRICULTURE—		
Staff	xi	58
Agricultural scholarships	xii	59
Agricultural education	xii	60
Agricultural farms	xii	61
FISHERIES	xii	62
VETERINARY DEPARTMENT—		
Staff	xii	63
Inoculation	xiii	64
Improvement of cattle and of milk supply	xiii	65
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—		
General Progress	xiii	66
Provincial and Central Banks	xiii	67
Non-Agricultural Societies	xiii	68
Audit	xiii	69
Future progress and control	xiv	70
WEATHER AND CROPS	xiv	71
FORESTS—		
Area	xiv	72
Staff	xiv	73
Reconstitution of Divisions	xiv	74
Demarcation of the Khurda Protected Forests	xiv	75
Protection of private forests	xiv	76
MANUFACTURES AND MINES—		
Coal	xv	77
Accidents	xv	78
Health in the coalfields	xv	79
Sanitation and water-supply	xv	80
Rules and Legislation	xv	81
Iron and Copper	xv	82
Mica	xv	83
Other industries	xv	84
Factories	xv	85
TRADE—		
Sea-borne trade	xvi	86
Frontier trade	xvi	87
Trade by rail and river	xvi	88

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*		
BUILDINGS—		
Staff	xvi	89
Buildings in the New Capital	xvi	90
Court Buildings	xvi	91
Jail do.	xvi	92
Police do.	xvi	93
Educational Buildings	xvii	94
Hospitals and Asylums	xvii	95
Residences	xvii	96
Imperial Works	xvii	97
COMMUNICATIONS	xvii	98
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS	xvii	99
RAILWAYS—		
Administration	xviii	100
Mileage	xviii	101
CANALS AND IRRIGATION—		
Productive works ; area irrigated	xviii	102
Revenue	xviii	103
Protective works	xviii	104
Embankment and Drainage	xviii	105
CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.		
IMPERIAL FINANCE	xviii	106
EXCISE—		
Staff and organization	xix	107
Advisory Committees	xix	108
Legislation and orders	xix	109
Neutral Zone	xix	110
Revenue and consumption	xix	111
Cocaine	xix	112
Salt	xix	113
PROVINCIAL FINANCE	xix	114
LOCAL FINANCE	xx	115
CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.		
VITAL STATISTICS—		
Vital Statistics	xx	116
Registration of vital occurrences	xx	117

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE—*continued.*		
VITAL STATISTICS—*continued.*		
Cholera	xx	118
Small-pox	xx	119
Plague	xxi	120
Fevers	xxi	121
INLAND EMIGRATION—		
Number of Emigrants	xxi	122
Improvement of the conditions of recruitment	xxi	123
MEDICAL SERVICE—		
Staff	xxi	124
Institutions	xxi	125
Travelling dispensaries	xxii	126
Medical Schools	xxii	127
Leper Asylums	xxii	128
Lunatic Asylums	xxii	129

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE—*concluded.*		
SANITATION—		
General progress	xxii	130
Staff	xxiii	131
Sanitary School and Sanitary Laboratory ...	xxiii	132
Vaccination	xxiii	133
CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.		
General Progress	xxiii	134
Staff	xxiv	135
Arts Colleges	xxiv	136
Secondary Education	xxiv	137
Primary Education	xxiv	138
Training Institutions	xxiv	139
Female Education	xxv	140
Muhammadan Education	xxv	141
LITERATURE AND THE PRESS—		
Newspapers	xxv	142

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1915-16.

PART I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Charles Stuart Bayley, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., I.S.O., was Lieutenant-Governor of the province until the afternoon of the 19th November, on which date he made over charge of his office to the Hon'ble Sir Edward Albert Gait, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

HEADQUARTERS OF GOVERNMENT AND LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S TOURS.

2. The headquarters of Government remained at Ranchi until the middle of November. Sir Charles Bayley was in residence for a week at Bankipore in November immediately before making over charge. Sir Edward Gait resided at Bankipore until the 26th February. **Headquarters of Government.**

3. On the 9th April Sir Charles Bayley left Bankipore for Puri where he stayed until the end of the month. From Puri His Honour paid a short visit to Cuttack. At the end of May a short visit was paid to Simla. In July and August His Honour visited Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Pusa, Chapra, Arrah, Bankipore, Gaya and Hazaribagh, returning to Ranchi on the 25th August. **Tours.**

Sir Edward Gait toured in Orissa in November and December, visiting Cuttack and Sambalpur, where he held darbars, and the Feudatory States of Patna, Sonpur, Kalahandi and Gangpur.

In February His Honour visited Bhagalpur, Jamalpur, Monghyr and Ranchi, returning to Bankipore on the 23rd February. On the 26th February His Honour left Bankipore for Gaya, and on the 27th travelled by way of Budh Gaya and Hazaribagh to Ranchi. In March His Honour toured for nine days in the south of the Ranchi District.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

4. Sir Edward Gait held office as Member and Vice-President of the Executive Council up to the 19th November 1915, when Sir Edward Levinge succeeded him as Vice-President, and Sir William Vincent was appointed Member. On the services of the latter being placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of India in February 1916, the temporary vacancy **Executive Council.**

on the Council was filled by the Hon'ble Mr. W. Maude. The Hon'ble Sir Edward Levinge and the Hon'ble Maharaja Bahadur Sir Rameshvara Singh of Darbhanga continued to hold office as Members throughout the year.

Appointment of Sadr Subdivisional Officers.

5. In July 1915 the Government of India sanctioned the appointment of Sadr Subdivisional Officers throughout the province.

Withdrawal of Powers.

6. The special powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, exercised by the Deputy Commissioners of Ranchi, Manbhum and Sambalpur were withdrawn.

New Subdivisions.

7. The new subdivision at Simdega in the district of Ranchi was opened in November 1915.

CREATION OF A HIGH COURT AT PATNA.

Creation of a High Court of Judicature at Patna.

8. The most important event of the year was the opening on March 1st, 1916, of a High Court of Judicature at Patna for the province of Bihar and Orissa. The following were the first Judges of the new Court :—

Chief Justice—Sir Edward Maynard Des Champs Chamier, Kt.

Puisne Judges—Mr. Saiyid Sharf-ud-din, Barrister-at-Law.
Mr. Edward Pelly Chapman, I.C.S.
Mr. Basanta Kumar Mallick, I.C.S.
Mr. Francis Reginald Roe, I.C.S.
The Hon'ble Cecil Atkinson, K.C.
Rai Bahadur Jwala Prasad.

Mr. W. S. Coutts, I.C.S., was appointed Registrar, while the post of Government Advocate and Public Prosecutor was given to Mr. P. C. Manuk, Bar-at-Law, with Mr. Sultan Ahmad, Bar-at-Law, as Assistant Government Advocate and Khan Bahadur Saiyid Fakhr-ud-din as Government Pleader.

Orissa Circuit Court.

9. It is laid down in the Letters Patent constituting the Patna High Court that one or more Judges shall visit the Orissa Division on Circuit. For the present the Circuit Court will be held at Cuttack and the District Judge of Cuttack has been appointed *ex-officio* Registrar, and the Government Pleader of Cuttack *ex-officio* Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader of this Court.

STATES HAVING DIRECT POLITICAL RELATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.

Result of trials of persons implicated in the Khond rebellion.

10. The final results of the trials of persons implicated in the rising of the Khonds of Daspalla in October 1914, which was fully described in last year's report, may be summarized as follows :—

The instigator of the rebellion, Baishnab Charan Deo Bhanj, was punished with transportation for life. Of the other persons accused in the original trial four were acquitted, and one was discharged as an approver. The remaining 97 were convicted and sentenced as follows :—

10 to death,
8 to transportation for life,
5 to transportation for 14 years, and
74 to various terms of imprisonment.

The death sentences on all but three ring-leaders were subsequently commuted for transportation for life under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

Seven absconders were convicted in supplementary trials, six being finally sentenced to terms of transportation and one to seven years' rigorous imprisonment.

11. Sanction was accorded to the release of the State of Bonai from Government management subject to certain conditions, the most important being that the Chief should employ as his Dewan and Assistant Dewan officers deputed by the Local Government. **Release of the Feudatory State of Bonai.**

12. On the death in March 1916 of Raja Tribhuvan Deo, Feudatory Chief of the Bamra State in Orissa, the succession of his eldest son was recognized by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under the name and title of Raja Sudhal Deo. **Succession to the Chiefship of Bamra.**

13. The Orissa States showed conspicuous loyalty in contributing towards the maintenance of the war. The subscriptions to the various war funds amounted to Rs. 31,439, while the Chiefs of Patna, Sonpur and Bamra each gave a further donation of Rs. 8,000 for the purchase of a Motor Ambulance to be named after their States. **Contributions to War Funds.**

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

14. The price of food-grains remained high throughout the year but the labour market, which had been adversely affected by the war, showed signs of improvement, especially in Chota Nagpur, where the coal and iron works of Manbhum and Singhbhum provided employment for large numbers of labourers. A noticeable feature of the year was the revival of the indigo industry owing to the stoppage of the supply of synthetic dyes from Germany.

Agricultural conditions varied considerably in different parts of the province. The harvests were generally good in the Patna Division and the greater part of the Bhagalpur Division. In North Bihar the heavy floods of August did great damage to the *bhadoi* crop, but the situation was relieved by the satisfactory *aghani* and *rabi* harvests. In Orissa heavy and unseasonable rains in November injured the crops in Puri, and in Angul conditions bordering on scarcity prevailed for a time. Parts of Chota Nagpur suffered from drought. The co-operative movement continues to make progress.

The year on the whole was fairly healthy, though cholera broke out in epidemic form in Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Monghyr as the result of the floods. There was a considerable decline in the mortality from plague.

FAMINE AND FLOODS.

15. In Angul owing to the capricious nature of the rainfall and the failure of the *mahua* crop there was considerable local distress which was alleviated by a considerable expansion of the ordinary programme of Public Works and by the distribution of takavi loans.

The situation brought about in parts of the Chota Nagpur Division by the failure of the early rice crop, following poor harvests in the preceding year, was more serious, and in the Kolhan Government Estate in the Singhbhum

District scarcity was formally declared. Test-works were started in September and continued during October and part of November in the 700 square miles most affected, and a number of kitchens were opened. Gratuitous relief was distributed; and in addition Rs. 60,000 was given out in loans. No special relief measures were necessary in the months of December and January, but the situation required their resumption in February and continuance on an even larger scale during the first seven months of 1916-17. Similar relief, though on a smaller scale, was given in the Hura and Manbazar thanas of Manbhum District.

Owing to heavy rainfall, both locally and in the hills, there were severe floods in North Bihar; the districts chiefly affected being Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and parts of North Monghyr. In the flooded tracts the *bhadoi* crops were greatly damaged and many houses were destroyed, but prompt measures were taken to alleviate distress both by the distribution of takavi loans and the organization of charitable relief, the European planters especially displaying their usual generosity, and it was not found necessary to open any regular relief works.

A joint meeting of the Embankment Committees of Champaran, Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur was subsequently held in December 1915, to discuss certain questions connected with the drainage of the area affected, the influence of embankments, and the adequacy of the waterways in the Tribeni Canal, the embanked District Board roads and the Bengal and North-Western Railway line. The recommendations of the Committee are now under the consideration of Government.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REALIZATION OF REVENUES.

Revenue and Cess.

16. The current demand of land revenue rose by approximately one-third of a lakh, the increase being derived mainly from estates held direct by Government.

The ratio of total collections to total demands was 95·71 per cent. This was the lowest recorded since the creation of the province, and was due largely to the failure of the harvests in the earlier part of the year.

The increase of Rs. 2,29,000 in the Cess demand is due chiefly to the annual revision of the assessment on mines and forests in Ranchi and Manbhum and to revaluation operations in five districts.

Amendment of the Cess Act.

17. The Bengal Cess Act (Act IX of 1880) was partially amended by the Bihar and Orissa Cess Amendment Act (I of 1916) which came into force in January 1916. The principal change effected was the amalgamation of the former Road and Public Works Cesses in a single "Local Cess" the entire proceeds of which will be paid into the District Fund and be at the disposal of the District Board or District Committee for expenditure on the objects prescribed in the Act. The opportunity was taken to effect some minor

amendments which experience had shown to be necessary and in particular to delegate to the Board of Revenue certain powers under the Act hitherto exercised by Government.

18. Appendix XVIII (parts A and B) to the Annual Land Revenue Administration Report, which shows the financial results of loan operations under Act XIX of 1883 and Act XII of 1884 was revised so as to exhibit more clearly the net profit or loss to Government of loan operations after all necessary deductions have been made for remissions, expenses and the like. **Minor Innovations.**

The Local Government approved of the adoption in the district of Sambalpur of the revised rules issued by the Central Provinces Administration regarding the exemption of improvements from assessment.

SURVEYS.

19. Traverse Survey of 925 square miles in Palamau was carried out during the year. **Traverse Survey.**

20. The outturn of the Imperial Mapping Section, employed on the preparation of standard maps from the data supplied by recent surveys, included seventeen sheets covering over 4,000 square miles, while twenty-seven standard sheets are in hand. Eight sheets remain to be taken up. In the Provincial section a number of thana maps were completed, and work was in progress on small scale district maps. **Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.**

LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENTS.

21. Settlement operations were in progress in six districts and comprised the three Major Settlements in charge of civilian officers in South Bihar, North Bihar and Chota Nagpur. The expenditure of the year amounted to eight and three-quarter lakhs. **General.**

22. The record-of-rights for thanas Arwal, Nabinagar and Daudnagar was finally published. The year's programme consisted of attestation proceedings in an area of 1,622 square miles in Gaya. Orders were passed that in this district the Collectorate, and not the Settlement, Staff should deal with applications under section 40 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the commutation of produce-rents, which are a source of much contention between landlords and tenants in this area. Instances of failure to grant proper rent-receipts were reported to the Collector under section 58 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in 119 cases, in 116 of which fines were imposed amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 2,413. **South Bihar.**

The recovery of costs was very satisfactorily carried out, all but Rs. 266 being realized out of a total demand of nearly five lakhs.

23. Operations were in progress in Hazaribagh, Singhbhum and Palamau. In Singhbhum, owing to scarcity, the attestation of the second half of the Kolhan Government Estate had to be postponed. In Hazaribagh the staff was employed chiefly in the recovery of costs, of which about four and a quarter lakhs were collected out of a demand of four and a half lakhs, and in **Chota Nagpur.**

the disposal of post publication suits. The programme in Palamau consisted of cadastral survey and preliminary record writing for an area of 1,147 square miles, attestation and draft publication for 1,414 square miles, and final publication of 1,172 square miles. The work of attestation revealed a number of abuses, and the action of the Settlement staff in excising illegal enhancements of rent aroused considerable opposition among the landlords who also impugned the correctness of the record on other matters. Under the orders of the Local Government a special inquiry was made by the Director of Land Records, whose report is now under consideration.

North Bihar Revision Settlement.

24. Revision settlement operations were started in the Saran District, and continued in Champaran. In the former the original programme covering 1,119 square miles was reduced to one of 788 square miles only, in view of the financial stringency. The work consisted of map revision and preliminary record-writing. There was a satisfactory fall in the percentage of internal disputes to plots, though, as in Champaran, the number of plots was found to have increased by 27 per cent. since the last settlement.

In Champaran the record for the Bettiah Subdivision, excluding some diara areas, was finally published, while the attestation of 1,743 square miles, comprising the whole of the Sadr Subdivision, was nearly completed. An important problem arose in connection with the rent enhancements made by indigo planters in consideration of the abrogation of the raiyats' obligation to grow indigo on part of their holdings. The legality of these enhancements, which had given rise to strained relations between landlords and tenants, was a matter of considerable doubt. The question was referred for legal opinion and the enhancements were in the majority of cases allowed; while in many instances compromises were effected.

Determined efforts were made by the settlement to check corruption among the subordinate staff. Apart from a number of subordinates who were dismissed or discharged after departmental proceedings, five men were prosecuted, of whom three were convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

Resurvey of the Boundary between Gorakhpur and Champaran.

25. The boundary between Champaran and Gorakhpur in the United Provinces, which had been determined by a Commission in 1887, was resurveyed, with a view to reconcile certain discrepancies which had come to light, by the Settlement Officer, North Bihar, and an officer deputed by the Government of the United Provinces. The recommendations made in their joint report have been accepted by the Local Governments.

Future Programme.

26. The traverse survey of Manbhum was postponed owing to financial stringency. No new programme was sanctioned.

Final Reports.

27. Final reports were received of the Survey and Settlement operations in the Patna District and the Khurda Government Estate in Puri, and of the special proceedings for the settlement of rents under section 112 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in the Estates of Babu Sukhan Singh in South Monghyr. A report was also received of the topographical survey operations in Bihar and Orissa during 1914-15.

Maintenance of Land Records.

28. The preparation of new records and maps for the district of Sambalpur progressed favourably, and the outturn showed a considerable advance over that of the preceding year.

The scheme for the continuous maintenance of land records in Orissa has been finally abandoned.

29. Orders were issued delegating to Subdivisional Officers the powers of a Collector or Deputy Commissioner under sections 87 and 167 of the Bengal Tenancy Act and the corresponding sections of the Tenancy Acts of Chota Nagpur and Orissa. The Court-fees chargeable under certain sections of the Orissa Tenancy Act were revised. **Rules and Orders.**

WARDS AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

30. One new estate was taken under management and seven were released. At the close of the year there were 154 estates under management, of which 100 were managed under the provisions of the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act. **Number under management.**

31. The expenditure on works of improvement, schools and dispensaries, amounted to five and a half lakhs, against four lakhs in the preceding year. **Improvements.**

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES.

32. The question of amending the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act in regard to produce-rent, and of bringing them into line with those of the Orissa Act, is under consideration, but the completion of the Gaya settlement will be awaited before deciding what changes, if any, should be made in the law governing the payment, recovery and commutation of produce-rents. **Working of the Tenancy Acts.**

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION.

33. The following Acts were passed into law, namely :—

(1) The Patna Administration Act, 1915.

(2) The Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, 1915.

(3) The Bihar and Orissa Cess (Amendment) Act, 1916.

(4) The Bihar and Orissa Medical Act, 1916.

(5) The Bihar and Orissa Decentralization Act, 1916.

No legislation was pending before the Council at the close of the year.

POLICE.

34. The Superior Police cadre was strengthened by the creation of an additional appointment of Superintendent of Police as Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways. With a view to the more effective control of crime in the colliery area, the Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Dhanbad Subdivision of the district of Manbhum was also appointed to act as Superintendent for six months from April 1915. In the subordinate ranks an increase of 62 officers and men was sanctioned, bringing the total strength to 13,858 against 13,796 in 1914. **Staff.**

Discipline.

35. The discipline of the force continued to be good. There was an increase in the number of rewards, and though the number of judicial punishments rose slightly, there was a decrease in that of departmental punishments. Of 110 criminal charges instituted against the Police only five, involving two head-constables and four constables, ended in conviction, while in 17 cases the complainants were prosecuted and seven convictions were obtained.

Crime.

36. The chief event of the year was the capture of a party of five revolutionaries who had sought refuge in the State of Mayurbhanj after committing most serious crimes, including murder and dacoity, in Bengal. On the Police approaching their hiding place they escaped but were most pluckily held up by villagers some miles from Balasore. Under the leadership of the District Magistrate, Mr. R. G. Kilby, C.I.E., the Police successfully attacked the position held by the revolutionaries, of whom one was killed and two others wounded, one mortally, in the course of the fight. The survivors were tried by a Special Tribunal appointed under the Defence of India Act, and two were executed while the third was sentenced to transportation for life. The valuable assistance given by the villagers was suitably rewarded.

Dacoity on the Purnea-Nepal border was strictly controlled, but there was a marked increase in cases reported from the districts of Hazaribagh and Manbhum. In the former the two gangs responsible were broken up with the aid of the Criminal Investigation Department. In Manbhum action was taken under the Criminal Tribes Act.

There was a decrease in the number of offences against the person, other than murders, but a general increase in offences against property, due to the high prices of food-grains. There was a decline in the number of cases of riot and unlawful assembly.

Fewer cases were declared false than in the previous year, but the number of prosecutions under sections 182 and 211 of the Indian Penal Code increased by forty-two.

Criminal Tribes.

37. Systematic operations were undertaken under the Criminal Tribes Act and a number of tribes and gangs were declared to be Criminal Tribes, including the Palwar Dusadhs of Saran, the Magahiya Dusadhs of Darbhanga, seven gangs of Bhumijes in Manbhum, and the Chakai Dusadhs residing in the districts of Bhagalpur, Monghyr, the Santal Parganas and Hazaribagh.

In regard to the Dom settlements under the management of the Salvation Army it has been decided, after a full discussion with Commissioner Booth-Tucker, to revert to the system of Police control in Saran, where the Doms are scattered and difficult to supervise. In Champaran, where they are concentrated in two settlements, the work of the Salvation Army has greater opportunities of success and the present system will continue.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

Offences and Trials.

38. The number of criminal offences reported was 98,229, or 5,824 less than in 1914. Of these, roughly two-thirds were offences under the Indian Penal Code. The number of cases which were found to be false, or were withdrawn before trial, was 20,534 or 20·9 per cent. of the total number as against 22·6 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage of

persons convicted to the number accused rose from 49·2 in 1914 to 51·3 in the year under review. District Magistrates disposed of only 54 cases out of a total of 59,782 brought to trial during the year. There was a small increase in the number of cases committed for trial by Sessions Judges, but a slight reduction in the number of appeals.

39. Additional Sessions Judges were employed in Patna and Manbhum-Sambalpur for short periods and in Shahabad throughout the year. Subordinate Judges vested with the powers of Assistant Sessions Judges were employed in Shahabad, Gaya and Muzaffarpur. **Judicial Staff.**

JAILS.

40. The average daily strength of the jail population rose from 7,007 in 1914 to 7,709 in 1915, the highest figure recorded since the formation of the province. It should however be mentioned that of the 16,108 convicts over one-third had sentences not exceeding one month, and crime of a serious nature showed a considerable decline. For example the number of admissions for murder and culpable homicide fell from 108 in each case in 1914 to 94 and 78, respectively, in 1915 and for house-breaking punishable with death or transportation from 77 to 46. The general discipline of the prisoners showed improvement. **Population.**

41. The average daily number of sick and the death-rate rose from 28·8 and 16·9 per mille, respectively, in 1914, to 30·1 and 25·0 in the year under report. Though this rise partly reflected the unhealthiness of the year, which raised the death-rate of the general population from 28·3 to 32·2 per mille, the increase in the number of admissions was a contributory cause. The incidence of dysentery, diarrhœa and pneumonia was higher than in the previous year, but the number of patients suffering from malaria continued to decline. An interesting report has been received from the Sanitary Commissioner on malaria in the jails of Bihar and Orissa and effect will so far as possible be given to his recommendations. **Health and Mortality.**

42. The working of the Juvenile Jail at Monghyr was fairly satisfactory, but the majority of the boys are confined for periods too short to admit of any permanent improvement in their character. **Juvenile Jail.**

43. It is disappointing to record that the scheme, mentioned in last year's report, for granting more extended aid to time-expired convicts through the agency of local committees has had to be abandoned for the present, partly owing to the difficulty of finding suitable persons to co-operate and partly because the ex-prisoners themselves declined to accept assistance which from their point of view involved surveillance. **Aid to discharged prisoners.**

44. The working of the Forms Press at Gaya Jail, which was raised during the year under review to the status of a second class Central Jail, is gradually improving. **Gaya Jail Press.**

45. The question of reorganizing of the Jailer and Warder establishment engaged the attention of Government. Proposals for improving the pay and prospects of the subordinate medical staff of the Jail Department were submitted to the Government of India shortly after the close of the year. The preparation of a Jail Code for Bihar and Orissa has been taken in hand. **Miscellaneous.**

CIVIL JUSTICE.

Institutions and disposals of suits and appeals.

46. The number of original suits instituted was 163,529, two thousand less than in the previous year. There has been a marked decline in the institution of suits during the last two years. The disposals numbered 157,737, a decrease of 21,322, and the number of suits pending at the close of the year rose from 78,126 to 87,744. In the subordinate appellate courts a slight increase in the number of appeals instituted was more than counterbalanced by an increase in disposals, and of the appeals left pending at the close of 1915, those pending for over one year numbered only 270 as compared with 1,206 in 1914. There was a reduction of 401 in the number of appeals left pending in the High Court.

Staff.

47. Three Additional District Judges, six Additional Subordinate Judges and several additional Munsifs were appointed for varying periods.

REGISTRATION.

Comparative Figures.

48. The number of documents registered was 535,650, exceeding the previous record of 1909 by nearly seven per cent. The income of the Department, which amounted to nearly seven lakhs, was also a record. Almost every district in the province contributed to the increase, which is attributed to the high price of food-grains. There was a marked decrease only in Champaran, where an abnormal number of documents had been registered in the last few years, owing to the settlement operations which are now almost completed.

Offices.

49. A Sub-Registry office was opened at Forbesganj in Purnea District as an experimental measure. The office at Patamundai in Cuttack which had been opened in 1913 was made permanent.

Staff.

50. Rule 6 of the Rules for the appointment of Probationers in the Registration Department was revised in order to provide that probationers selected from persons already holding substantive appointments in Government service will, when not officiating as Sub-Registrars, continue to draw the pay of their last appointment up to a maximum of Rs. 50 a month.

DISTRICT BOARDS AND MUNICIPALITIES.

District Boards.

51. The activities of the District Boards were on the whole well sustained. It was especially satisfactory that, though, owing to the exigencies of Provincial finance, there could be no increase in the grants for educational purposes given by Government to the District Boards, the latter increased their expenditure on education by nearly one and three-quarter lakhs.

In addition to the sum of Rs. 50,000 placed by Government at the disposal of each Commissioner for augmenting at his discretion the resources of the District Boards, a number of specific grants, amounting in the aggregate to over a lakh, were made for the improvement of various roads and bridges, while a loan of Rs. 50,000 was taken by the District Board of Manbhum for constructing a bridge over the Kasai river.

Local Boards.

52. In the Patna Division Local Boards are being gradually entrusted with the supervision of sanitation, construction of school buildings, management of dispensaries and the control of Primary Education; and since the close of the year District Boards have been advised to transfer to Local

Boards the control of all roads except those which form the main routes of district communication.

53. The number of Union Committees was doubled by the formation of twelve new Unions. The aggregate income of these bodies amounted to Rs. 40,000 as compared with Rs. 25,000 in the previous year; and, as their activities are chiefly directed to the improvement of conservancy, drainage add water-supply, their development should do much to promote the cause of sanitation in rural towns and villages which are not yet ripe for municipal administration. **Union Committees.**

54. In the Municipalities a number of important projects were in progress, of which the most noteworthy were the water-supply scheme for the new Capital, and the Gaya drainage scheme. The framing of Model Building Regulations, which aim at preventing congestion and securing sanitary conditions, was taken in hand. Regular inspections of the Municipalities were made by the Sanitary Commissioner and the three Deputy Sanitary Commissioners working under him. The twelve chief Municipal towns are now provided with Health Officers paid by Government and courses have been instituted for the training of Sanitary Inspectors, half the increased cost of whose pay will be borne by Government for a period of three years. There was an increase of one lakh in the expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries. **Municipalities.**

55. Government have again examined the question of extending to Municipalities which did not formerly possess it the privilege of electing their own Chairman, and this was granted to eight Municipalities during the year or shortly after its close. It is worthy of note that fifteen Municipalities stated that their local conditions were not as yet ripe for this concession. **Municipal Elections.**

In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee appointed in pursuance of the Resolution passed at the meeting of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council held on the 26th November 1915, the revision of the existing election rules has been taken in hand, with a view to prevent corrupt practices at Municipal elections.

56. The Bengal Cess Act, IX of 1880, was amended during the year. **Legislation.**

MARINE.

57. One hundred and twenty-six vessels entered the ports in Orissa against one hundred and forty-two in the previous year. The total value of trade, both export and import, was Rs. 32,55,000 only against Rs. 43,36,000 in 1914-15. The decrease was due to the war.

The health of the ports was generally good, but malaria was prevalent at Chandbali for some months.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

AGRICULTURE.

58 Under the scheme for reorganizing the Agricultural Department, Inspectors were appointed in nine districts. The system of training *Kamdars*, recruited from the ordinary cultivating classes, to demonstrate in their villages **Staff.**

the benefits of improved methods and agricultural implements, is reported to have had satisfactory results in the three divisions where it had been previously introduced, and its further extension is under contemplation.

Agricultural Scholarships.

59. With a view both to obtain suitable candidates for these Inspectorships and to encourage the general study of agriculture in the province, three Government scholarships of a monthly value of Rs. 20 each, tenable at the Sabour College, have been created, to be awarded to selected students who enter into an undertaking to accept service under Government on passing the final examination.

Agricultural Education.

60. An important feature of the year was the substitution for the three years' diploma course at Sabour of a two years' course to be followed, in the case of students qualified for, and anxious to proceed to, a diploma, by a further two years' course. This change has been followed by a satisfactory increase in the number of students on the rolls from 20 to 35, of whom seven belong to this province as compared with one only in the previous year.

The preliminary course is directed mainly to practical agriculture, and students who complete the course and obtain a certificate of proficiency will be qualified for the minor posts of District Inspectorships, Farm Superintendentships, etc., in the Agricultural Department of the province.

Agricultural Farms.

61. The new farm at Ranchi was brought into full working order and two new demonstration farms, belonging to private individuals at Kendrapara and at Kanika in the Orissa Division, were opened and placed under the control of the Agricultural Department.

The activities of the Department were considerably hampered by the absence of two of its small superior staff on military duty, and also by the necessity for strict economy. A considerable amount of useful research work was, however, done by the expert members of the staff, while the Divisional Directors paid special attention to the improvement of the farms in their charge, and to endeavouring to establish closer relations with the agricultural community through the medium of the District Associations, Central Banks and Co-operative Societies. Distribution of Pusa wheat was continued, but on a smaller scale than was intended, owing to the small amount of seed available.

FISHERIES.

62. It has been decided to continue for the present the system by which Bihar and Orissa shares the services of a Fishery Expert with Bengal. Financial considerations have rendered it necessary to postpone the proposed appointment of an Assistant to the Deputy Director to be trained with a view to his ultimately taking over independent charge of fishery work in this province.

The activities of the Fishery Department were, as hitherto, directed mainly to carp and hilsa culture : in the case of the former considerable success has been obtained, and the Department is now in a position to supply pure carp fry in large quantities to the general public. In the case of hilsa the results are still disappointing.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

Staff.

63. The subordinate staff of the Veterinary Department was increased by the appointment of two Inspectors and two Assistants, but thirteen sanctioned

posts in the latter ranks remained vacant for want of candidates. Special efforts were made to secure young men from Bihar and Orissa for training in the Bengal Veterinary College by inducing the local bodies to add to the number of stipends offered and the result was so far satisfactory that the number of admissions from this province rose to 27 from eleven only in the previous year.

64. There was a fall in the number of inoculations, after the steady progress of the last three years; the decline is partly attributable to the absence, on leave or deputation, of three experienced Inspectors. Some co-operative societies did good work both in reporting outbreaks of cattle disease and in getting animals inoculated; and the help which these societies are willing to extend to the veterinary staff will be an important factor in the success of the Department. **Inoculation.**

65. The cattle-breeding farm at Sipaya continues to make satisfactory progress. The strength of the herd at the end of the year stood at 204 as against the 51 animals with which it was started in 1914. **Improvement of cattle and milk supply.**

The question of improving the milk supply of large towns by establishing Co-operative Dairy Societies on the lines of that at Gaya is under consideration.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

66. The keynote of the year's work was consolidation rather than expansion. Only one new Central Bank was opened as compared with seven in the previous year. There were 1,221 primary agricultural societies against 1,019 in 1914-15, while the membership increased by 6,155 and the working capital by over three lakhs of rupees. There was an increase of more than three and a half lakhs of rupees in the working capital of the Provincial and Central Banks. **General Progress.**

67. The Provincial Bank continued to make good progress and has proved a source of strength to the Central Banks. The working of the latter showed on the whole considerable improvement, and the cost of their management works out to the remarkably low figure of 2 per cent. of the working capital, a result rendered possible only by the large number of honorary workers engaged. Some of the Banks however suffer from a want of system, and it is clearly desirable that, wherever possible, trained managers should be appointed, thus relieving the honorary organizers of routine duties, and enabling them to devote more attention to the actual supervision of the Societies. **Provincial and Central Banks.**

68. Among the non-agricultural societies the "Amla" Societies, 26 in number, have as a rule shown little or no improvement, owing to apathy and lack of energetic management. The two Milk Societies at Gaya and Sambalpur are still in the experimental stage. Of the ten Weavers' Societies, those at Cuttack and Sambalpur are progressing favourably and have been successful in popularizing the use of the fly-shuttle loom among their members. **Non-Agricultural Societies.**

69. Sanction was accorded to the entertainment of an additional local auditor with effect from December 1915, and the term of the two local auditors already appointed was extended to the end of the May following. With the growth of the movement careful audit is becoming increasingly important. **Audit.**

Future Progress and control.

70. While it is vital that the people should themselves grasp the main principles of Co-operation, the future development and successful expansion of the Societies depends largely on expert supervision and sympathetic encouragement. The work of the Registrar is becoming increasingly arduous and complicated, and it is imperative not only that he should have assistance but that there should be a supply of trained officers to carry on the work. The Local Government have accordingly submitted to the Government of India proposals for the complete reorganization of the Department, the main features of which are the appointment of Deputy Registrars for each of the five divisions, in addition to the Deputy Registrar at headquarters; the provision of an Assistant Registrar who should be expert in audit; and the formation of an Audit Federation. Provision is made for the training of Assistant Magistrates and Deputy Collectors to fill vacancies in the posts of Deputy Registrar.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

71. Though the drought in Chota Nagpur during the early part of the year, and the floods of the autumn in North Bihar, did considerable damage, the weather was on the whole not unfavourable and the total outturn of the crops was distinctly better than that of the previous year. The harvests were good in the districts not affected by the adverse factors above mentioned, and the produce of the winter crop was well up to the average. Late rains, as well as the moisture and silt left by the floods, were factors which favourably affected the *rabi* crops, the outturn of which was about normal.

FORESTS.

Area

72. No important additions were made to the area of reserved and protected forests. There are now 1,727 square miles of reserved forests and 1,062 square miles of protected forests under the management of the Forest Department, besides 993 square miles of protected forest, administered by the Civil Department.

Staff.

73. The sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained to the addition of two posts to the local cadre of the Imperial Forest Service, including one post for the preparation and revision of working plans and for sylvicultural research. No recruitment has yet been made against these additional posts.

Arrangements have been made for the training of Foresters and Rangers from this province at Balaghat in the Central Provinces. The necessary school for Rangers has still to be established, but Foresters will be deputed to the existing Vernacular Forest School from the beginning of the year 1917-18.

Reconstitution of Divisions.

74. Sanction has been accorded to the reconstitution of the Singhbhum and Kolhan Forest Divisions into three, to be called the Singhbhum, Chaibassa and Porahat Divisions.

Demarcation of the Khurda Protected Forests.

75. The demarcation of the Khurda Protected Forests was practically completed by the Subdivisional Officer in co-operation with the Divisional Forest Officer, a few points only remaining for final settlement and the orders of Government.

Protection of Private Forests.

76. The question of the measures to be taken for the protection of private forests in the Chota Nagpur Division is still under consideration.

MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

77. The output of the coal mines in the province was between ten and eleven million tons, or nearly two-thirds of the total output of India. Over nine and a half million tons came from the Jharia Coalfield in Manbhum. **Coal.**

Ninety-five thousand persons were employed in the mines.

78. The number of serious accidents reported was 168. The deaths numbered 99 against 107 in 1914. The most serious accident was the collapse of a cooly *Dhowra* in the Chanda Colliery, involving the death of seven persons. **Accidents.**

79. No serious epidemics occurred, but there were spasmodic outbreaks of cholera and small-pox. The more important and well-managed collieries have good sanitary arrangements and maintain dispensaries for the treatment of their employés. **Health in the Coalfields.**

80. Sanction was accorded to the exercise by the Board of Health of various powers and functions specified in the Rules made under section 11 of the Bengal Mining Settlements Act of 1912. **Sanitation and Water-supply.**

The scheme submitted by the Jharia Water Board for the construction of water-works in the Jharia Coalfield received the sanction of Government, and the work has been taken in hand.

81. Rules were issued under the Jharia Water-Supply Act of 1914 to regulate the accounts and financial statements of the Jharia Water Board. **Rules and Legislation.**

An amendment was made in Rule 28 of the rules made under section 20 of the Indian Mines Act. Its effect will be to give Government greater freedom in making appointments to the Board of Examiners for Mine Manager's Certificate.

82. In Singhbhum 124,000 tons of iron were produced against 151,000 in the preceding year. The output of copper rose from 4,400 tons to 8,000 tons. **Iron and Copper.**

83. The output of mica fell from 31,149 to 19,299 cwts. Steps have recently been taken to improve the output at the instance of the Ministry of Munitions. **Mica.**

84. Tea, jute and sugar were more or less stationary, but there was a marked revival of the indigo industry in Tirhut, where the area under indigo cultivation was nearly doubled, while the gross outturn rose to 10,500 maunds from little more than 8,000 in 1914-15. **Other Industries.**

The Peninsular Tobacco Company at Monghyr continued to produce cigarettes in great numbers and to draw large quantities of the raw material from the neighbouring districts.

85. The number of factories rose from 46 to 49 and the average daily number of persons employed increased by nearly four thousand. The general health and condition of operatives was satisfactory. The number of accidents was 519, of which eleven were fatal. **Factories.**

From August 1915 the engineering firms, which had previously suffered from the war, were busily engaged in making munitions, and their only difficulty was to obtain an adequate supply of skilled labour.

During the year special attention was paid to the fencing of dangerous machinery.

TRADE.

Sea-borne Trade.

86. The sea-borne trade of the province, which is carried on through the ports of Puri, Cuttack and Balasore, has been seriously affected by the war, and owing both to the prohibition of exports to foreign countries and the commandeering of a number of ocean-going vessels, the foreign trade entirely ceased. The coasting trade also suffered seriously and was carried on through the port of Balasore alone. The total of imports and exports was only 32½ lakhs against some 40 lakhs in 1914-15.

Frontier Trade.

87. The frontier trade with Nepal showed improvement, with a total value of 401 lakhs against 366 lakhs in the previous year.

Of the imports from Nepal rice was valued at an amount representing 57 per cent. of the whole, while, owing to the large demand in Europe, the imports of jute rose to 420,000 maunds against 285,000 maunds in the preceding year.

Trade by Rail and River.

88. The figures for interprovincial and internal trade differ but little from those of 1914-15. Imports into Bihar from other provinces remained practically the same, while the total value of exports rose by one and a half lakhs, an increase of 5 per cent., though the exports to Calcutta declined by one lakh.

BUILDINGS.

Staff

89. The additional appointment of Superintending Engineer, created last year, was abolished. Two Assistant Sanitary Engineers were appointed and also a separate Electrical Inspector for the province.

The Hazaribagh temporary division was made permanent and several temporary subdivisions were abolished, some on the completion of works and others owing to the postponement of the works for which they were opened. An Electrical Subdivision was formed under the Special Works Division.

Schemes for the revision of scales and pay of the Upper and Lower Subordinate Establishments and of the Ministerial Establishments in the Circle and Divisional Offices were sanctioned but cannot be introduced till financial conditions improve.

Buildings in the new Capital.

90. The High Court building was completed, and considerable progress was made with the construction of Government House and the Secretariat. The temporary Government House at Chhajubagh was allotted to the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and two new residences were built in the Chhajubagh compound for two other Judges of the High Court. A number of residences and quarters for officers and clerks were also completed.

Court Buildings.

91. The Judge's Court at Purulia, the Court buildings in the new sub-divisions at Bargarh and Simdega, and several Munsifs' Courts were completed; and the building of a Sessions Court at Dumka was commenced.

Jail Buildings.

92. In connection with the Gaya Jail Press several works of improvement were carried out, the most important being (1) Forms Press buildings; (2) Quarters for the Deputy Superintendent of the Press; (3) Separate Forms Store; and (4) Electric Installation. The Jail hospitals at Daltonganj and Ranchi and the new sub-jails at Chatra, Giridih, Bargarh and Simdega were finished.

Police Buildings.

93. Considerable progress was made with the construction of an Infectious Diseases' Ward in the Police Hospital at Gaya; the barracks for the town and temple Police at Puri, the Police buildings at Sakchi, and the Police

Hospitals at Puri and Motihari were completed; and the Police lines at Chowliaganj were converted into a Constables' Training School.

Educational Buildings.

94. The following are the most important works in connection with Education. Work was finished on the Training College and School at Bankipore, the Collegiate School with the Manual Training Workshops at Patna City, the Manual Training Workshop for the Ravenshaw Collegiate School, Cuttack, the new building for the Ranchi Zila School and the Zila School with Hostel, Training School and Superintendent's quarters at Muzaffarpur; while considerable progress was made with the construction of the Dharma Samaj Sanskrit College at Muzaffarpur.

Hospitals and Asylums.

95. Considerable progress was made with the Asylum for European Lunatics at Kankey in the district of Ranchi. Tuberculosis Wards were constructed in the Patna Lunatic Asylum and in the hospital at Ranchi, and progress was made with the erection of a new out-patients' ward in the General Hospital at Bankipore.

Residences.

96. Residences were completed for the Principal of the Ravenshaw College at Cuttack, four Professors of the Patna College, the Deputy Director of Agriculture of the Chota Nagpur Division, and various other officers including five Subdivisional officers.

Imperial Works.

97. Among the principal works under the head "Imperial" may be mentioned the completion of the combined Post and Telegraph Offices at Bhagalpur and Patna, the Office and Record-room for the Settlement Department and the residence for the Settlement Officer at Daltonganj, and two bungalows for the European Staff at Pusa.

COMMUNICATIONS.

98. The work of improving the existing roads forming a through trunk road between Bankipore and Cuttack was continued. The construction of the bridges on the Ranchi-Chaibassa road was finished, and the Hesadih-Tebo section of that road was completely regraded, soled and metalled. Good progress was made in the construction of the bridge over the Baitarani river on the borders of the Keonjhar State. Portions of the Cuttack-Sambalpur road and the Angul-Tikerpara road were taken up for improvement. The redecking of the Barakar bridge at Chirkunda on the Grand Trunk Road was also begun.

Approval was accorded to the construction of bridges over the Izri and Gowain rivers on the Chas-Gulbera road. These will afford bridged communication to the Jharia Coalfields in the district of Manbhum.

The improvement of the Chandwa-Kuru section of the Ranchi-Daltonganj road was commenced, and the reinforced concrete bridge over the Deonud river on this road was almost completed, while that over the Mangaldaha was in progress.

At Bankipore land was acquired for the extension of the Dâk Bungalow road, and sanction was accorded to a project for widening the metalled surface of the Bankipore-Dinapore Road.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

99. The river banks opposite the residence of the Superintending Engineer at Bankipore and the Law College at Patna City were protected by

revetments, and protective works to ensure the safety of the town of Madhipura in Bhagalpur District were also in progress.

RAILWAYS.

Administration.

100. The main lines of Railway in the province are controlled by the Government of India. Three Light Railways are partially under the control of the Local Government.

Mileage.

101. During the year 66¾ miles of Railway were opened to traffic including 35 miles between Rosera Ghat and Khagaria on the Samastipur-Khagaria Extension line, which was thus completed. With these additions the total mileage open came to just under 3,180 miles.

CANALS AND IRRIGATION.

Productive Works. Area Irrigated.

102. The Major Irrigation Works are the Sone and the Orissa Canals, which were constructed for navigation also. The area irrigated during the year was in round figures 816,000 acres, a decrease of 92,500 acres, due chiefly to the seasonable rainfall which lessened the demand on the Sone Canals for the irrigation of the *rabi* crop.

Revenue.

103. The gross revenue from these canals amounted to 25¾ lakhs, or three lakhs in excess of the preceding year. The increase was due partly to the collection of water-rates for the large *rabi* area irrigated in 1914-15 and partly to the recent enhancement of water-rates. After deducting direct and indirect working expenses, the net revenue was twelve and a half lakhs, but this is more than covered by the interest charges, which amount to over eighteen lakhs. While the Sone Canals are now beginning to pay off the accumulated interest, the Orissa Canals are never likely to do so.

Protective Works.

104. Of the two protective irrigation works in the province, the Tribeni Canal irrigated 54,000 acres and the Dhaka Canal 6,700 acres as compared with 76,000 acres and 11,300 acres in the previous year. The decrease was due to the character of the season.

EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

105. The expenditure on embankments was Rs. 1,25,000 or Rs. 40,000 less than in 1914-15. Of this amount Rs. 1,17,000 was spent on ordinary repairs and retired lines.

Floods in the Gandak and Bur Gandak rivers, and in the Ganges below Patna, were exceptionally high, the flood levels on the former rivers being little less than the highest previously recorded.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

IMPERIAL FINANCE.

106. Imperial receipts amounted to Rs. 1,03,19,000 as compared with Rs. 1,20,85,000 in the previous year. The decrease was due to a fall in the receipts from opium, stamps, excise and customs and to larger subventions

from Imperial to Provincial revenues. The corresponding expenditure rose from Rs. 46,44,000 to Rs. 46,88,000.

EXCISE.

107. Though for financial reasons complete effect could not be given to the scheme, sanctioned in 1914, for the reorganization of the Excise Department and its amalgamation with the Salt Department, certain minor changes were made in the subordinate establishment and an Assistant Commissioner of Excise was appointed jointly for Bihar and Orissa and the Central Provinces. **Staff and organization.**

108. The Local Advisory Committees were reconstituted on the same lines as in the previous year. These committees now meet not only in December to advise Collectors on the annual settlement proposals but again in July to discuss general matters of policy concerning excise. **Advisory Committees.**

109. The Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, II of 1915, which re-enacts and amends Bengal Act V of 1909, was passed into law, but did not come into force until April 1916, and the changes effected by it do not concern the year under review. **Legislation and orders.**

The rates of duty on *ganja* were enhanced with effect from April 1915, in all but three districts, and the treasury price of opium was increased from the same date in all districts but Angul. The limit of private possession of smoking preparations of opium was reduced from one tola to half a tola, in the case of individuals, and to two and a half tolas for a party of five or more smokers. The transmission by the inland post of cocaine and allied drugs and of preparation of opium was prohibited, subject to certain specified exemptions.

110. Orders were passed by the Government of Nepal and the Local Government respectively establishing a zone free from all classes of excise shops, other than *tari* shops, two miles wide on either side of the Nepal border. **Neutral Zone.**

111. The total excise revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 110 lakhs, or six lakhs less than in the preceding year. Except in the case of opium, which showed an increase of a lakh owing to the enhancement of the treasury price and the higher fees at which licenses were settled, the receipts from all exciseable articles fell, as the result of the high price of commodities and the trade dislocation caused by the war. The sale of country spirit in Chota Nagpur was further reduced by a curious socio-religious movement among the Oraons. **Revenue and Consumption.**

112. Though energetic measures were continued for the suppression of the pernicious traffic in cocaine, the use of the drug appears to have taken a firm hold upon the people; and, while a great rise in price is reported, the war has not been as effective as had been hoped in checking the supply. There is however reason to believe that the enhanced cost and increased difficulty of obtaining the drug have driven the smaller dealers out of the market, and there was a marked decrease in the number of cases detected. **Cocaine.**

113. The duty on salt was raised from Re. 1 to Re. 1-4-0 a maund with effect from the 1st March 1916. **Salt.**

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

114. The total receipts for 1915-16 amounted to Rs. 3,17,48,000 and the total expenditure to Rs. 3,28,78,000 against Rs. 3,01,61,000 and Rs. 3,38,92,000

in 1914-15. Although there was a decline in the revenue under almost all the principal heads, it was more than made good by larger subventions from Imperial revenues. The decrease in expenditure was due to the war which rendered a policy of retrenchment necessary in all departments.

LOCAL FINANCE.

115. The total receipts of Local Funds amounted to Rs. 1,08,96,746 and the charges to Rs. 1,21,66,042 leaving a closing balance of Rs. 37,44,509 against an opening balance of Rs. 50,13,805. There was a decline of nearly five lakhs in the receipts, and an increase of five lakhs in expenditure as compared with the previous year. The number of Union Funds authorized to bank with treasuries rose from five to twelve.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Vital Statistics.

116. The year was on the whole fairly healthy but the birth and death-rates compared unfavourably with those of the preceding year. The birth-rate was lower than, and the death-rate the same as, the average of the last quinquennium.

Registration of vital occurrences.

117. The registration of vital occurrences is still defective and efforts are being made to secure uniformity of procedure in collecting and verifying these statistics. Improved methods of registration have been introduced in the twelve chief towns of the province, while an interesting experiment in recording vital statistics in a selected rural area was commenced. The area chosen consists of three Chaukidari Unions in the Sadr thana of Muzaffarpur District, having an aggregate population of about 30,000 persons. The houses have been numbered and schedules filled in for the persons ordinarily resident in each, care being taken to ascertain their correct ages. Births and deaths are entered in appropriate columns, as they occur, by a staff of enumerators whose work is supervised regularly by three sub-assistant surgeons. The results so far tend to show that under the ordinary system there is an error amounting to 3 per mille in the recording of births and over 4 per mille in the recording of deaths.

Cholera.

118. The death-rate from cholera rose from ·9 to 2·5, which was slightly lower than the average of the last ten years. The disease broke out in epidemic form in Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Monghyr after the floods of August and September. The District Boards and Municipalities were requested to distribute permanganate of potash free of charge for the disinfection of wells, whenever there is an outbreak of cholera in epidemic form, and to sell it through local agents at other seasons of the year.

Small-pox.

119. Small-pox broke out in epidemic form in Darbhanga and Sambalpur. The death-rate was slightly higher than that of the previous decade.

120. There was a considerable decline in the mortality from plague. A whole fortnight elapsed without a single plague death being recorded, and, while conditions improved everywhere, eight districts were altogether free from the disease. **Plague.**

121. The reported death-rate from fever, though higher than in the previous year, was lower than the average of the past decade. As usual, nearly two-thirds of the total mortality of the province was attributed to this cause, but it is well known that this is largely due to the ignorance of the reporting agencies, who are unable to diagnose any but a few well-defined diseases, such as plague, cholera and small-pox, and classify others indiscriminately as fever. **Fevers.**

INLAND EMIGRATION.

122. The total number of emigrants recruited was 95,000 as compared with 40,000 in 1914-15 and 28,000 in 1913-14. This large increase is attributed mainly to bad harvests and to the extensive employment of garden sardars following the abolition of the system of recruitment by contractors. The bulk of the emigrants came as usual from the Chota Nagpur Districts. **Number of Emigrants.**

123. Efforts were made in several directions to improve the conditions under which labourers are recruited for the tea gardens of Assam. Under section 7 of Act VIII of 1915, which was brought into force in July 1915, sardari recruiting is now the only form of recruitment permissible under the law, and considerable concessions have been granted to sardars working under local agents, with a view to encourage recruitment under recognized supervising agencies. **Improvement of the conditions of Recruitment.**

Three Supervisors were appointed under the Assam Labour Board, whose duties will be to inspect and report to the local agents and to check all irregular recruitment. Rules were issued under which the Superintendent of emigration in each district will furnish to the Chairman of the Labour Board monthly statements showing the number of labourers engaged and dispatched to the labour districts.

MEDICAL SERVICE.

124. Excluding the Inspectors-General of Hospitals and Prisons and the Sanitary Commissioner, the number of Indian Medical Service officers available for duty in Bihar and Orissa was, owing to the war, further reduced to three, who hold the Civil Surgeoncies of Patna, Cuttack and Ranchi. Two Military Assistant Surgeons who were permanent Civil Surgeons were also called up. The officers recalled to military duty have been replaced in most cases by Civil Assistant Surgeons, but at Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur by European Planters' doctors. The Military Department also requisitioned the services of a number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons. **Staff.**

125. The number of dispensaries and hospitals rose from 349 to 366. Among the new institutions, of which eleven were opened by District Boards, the most important is the European Hospital at Ranchi. **Institutions.**

A proposal for converting the General Hospital at Patna into a State institution was submitted to the Government of India and has since been sanctioned.

Travelling dispensaries.

126. The six itinerant dispensaries started in August 1913, to which a seventh was afterwards added, were transferred to the District Boards for maintenance with effect from April 1916. The three local Indian doctors employed in the registration of Vital Statistics in Muzaffarpur were also provided with travelling dispensaries and another was opened by the District Board of Cuttack towards the end of the year.

The system of deputing medical officers to attend neighbouring fairs and markets was continued, and 80,000 patients were treated during the year as against 65,000 in the preceding year.

Medical Schools.

127. There were 98 and 165 students on the rolls in the Temple and Orissa Medical Schools respectively. The number of new admissions rose to 57 from 42 in the Temple Medical School, but at the Orissa School it declined from 67 to 57.

Revised rules were drawn up for the admission and training of students in these schools and the rules for the Compounders' Classes were revised.

The teaching at the schools is supervised by the Superintendents who are officers of the Indian Medical Service, and the staff has been strengthened by the addition of five Assistant Surgeon teachers. A whole-time Demonstrator of Anatomy has been appointed at the Orissa School, and two temporary additional Demonstrators are employed annually for four months during the dissecting season.

The buildings of the schools have been improved, while the installation at the Patna General Hospital of a water-supply and sewerage system, which will serve the needs of the Temple Medical School also, has been taken in hand.

There has thus been a considerable improvement in the efficiency of the schools, but until the Subordinate Medical Services offer greater attractions, the supply of candidates is likely to remain low in a province where the indigenous systems of medicine enjoy considerable popularity and reputation.

Leper Asylums.

128. In the eight Leper Asylums of Bihar and Orissa 1,288 lepers were treated as against 1,170 in 1914. The proposal for the establishment at Cuttack of a Leper Asylum for Orissa is approaching maturity.

Lunatic Asylums.

129. The state of the Patna Lunatic Asylum is not altogether satisfactory, and its insanitary situation probably contributes to a high rate of mortality. It is unfortunate that the completion of the Central Asylums at Ranchi for Europeans and Indians respectively has been delayed by the financial stringency resulting from the war.

SANITATION.

General Progress.

130. The attention paid to sanitation is increasing year by year, and though sanitary work is at present largely confined to the areas controlled by the Municipalities, which spent during the year under review nearly fifteen lakhs under this head against an expenditure of three and three-quarter lakhs by the District Boards, there are many directions in which progress is being made. In the rural areas the activities of the Union Committees are chiefly directed to the improvement of conservancy, drainage and water-supply in the larger villages and small townships, while sanitary work is performed by

the District Boards at fairs and *mélas*. A scheme was worked out for a sanitary survey of the province, but effect cannot be given to it until financial conditions improve.

131. Successful sanitary work demands a qualified staff, and progress is being made in the training of Sanitary Inspectors at the Sanitary School at Gulzarbagh. Health Officers are now employed in the principal Municipal towns of the province, which are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Commissioner and the three Deputy Sanitary Commissioners working under him. The superior staff of the Sanitary Engineer has been strengthened by the appointment of two Assistant Sanitary Engineers and the subordinate establishment has been reorganized; and these measures will enable the Sanitary Board to deal more systematically and expeditiously with the important projects in hand. **Staff.**

132. At the Sanitary School an inquiry made by a special Committee resulted in the constitution of a strong and representative Board of control and a revised syllabus for the course of instruction was drawn up. The temporary Sanitary Laboratory at Gulzarbagh is being improved, and in November 1915 an Assistant Surgeon was appointed as Probationary Chemical Analyst and deputed for training at Calcutta under the Chemical Examiner of Bengal. **Sanitary School and Sanitary Laboratory.**

133. Though there was some falling off in the number of operations performed by vaccination agencies as compared with last year, the opposition to vaccination is decreasing. Vaccination is now compulsory in all Municipalities. The Vaccination Acts were extended to the Jharia Coalfield and to two thana areas in Patna district. The working of the Vaccine Depôt at Nankum has been placed on a satisfactory footing, and this has resulted in a more plentiful and less costly supply of lymph. **Vaccination.**

The two malarial lecturers in the districts of Shahabad and Purnea continued their operations, while a third began work in Cuttack from September 1915. **Malaria.**

A scheme for administering quinine to Government servants drawing less than Rs. 10 a month in Purnea began on a systematic basis in May 1915, but the results are somewhat disappointing as the people, though accepting the drug when actually suffering from fever, will not voluntarily take it as a prophylactic.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

EDUCATION.

134. The work of the Education Department was materially affected by the general financial conditions, which necessitated a reduction of five lakhs in the amount appropriated for education from provincial revenues. On the other hand there was a substantial increase in the income from fees and subscriptions, and in the allotments made by local bodies. **General Progress.**

Thus, though it was necessary to limit expenditure on buildings to inexpensive schemes and to the completion of projects already taken up, the total expenditure on public instruction fell by little more than a lakh and there was actually an increase of three and a half lakhs in the direct expenditure. Consequently, while large developments, such as the scheme for improving secondary education, were necessarily postponed, it was possible to continue the general policy of expansion and advance on the lines already approved. That, in spite of this, the number of scholars should have decreased by five thousand and the number of institutions by one hundred, is due to the decline in the figures for lower primary schools which are discussed below.

Staff.

135. The already insufficient cadre of the Indian Educational Service was further depleted by the deputation of four officers to the Indian Army Reserve. On the other hand one new post in the Indian Educational Service was filled up and a considerable number of posts were added to the Provincial and Subordinate Educational Services.

Arts Colleges.

136. The number of collegiate students rose to 2,415, representing an increase of 73 per cent., since the province was created. The Bhumihar Brahman College at Muzaffarpur was provincialized and the new appointments of Professor of Philosophy at Patna College and of Professor of History at the Ravenshaw College at Cuttack were filled.

Secondary Education.

137. High and Middle Schools continued to make satisfactory progress. Not only did the number of pupils rise, by nearly two thousand, to about 55,000, but there was a larger proportion of boys in the higher classes. Three new High, and eleven Middle English, schools were recognized during the year.

The special classes held at selected Zila Schools for boys from Middle Vernacular Schools, with the object of enabling the pupils after one year's special study of English to join class IV, instead of starting in the lowest class, have hitherto been disappointing.

Primary Education.

138. While the Middle Vernacular and Upper Primary Schools continued to increase in number, in the case of Lower Primary Schools there was a decline of 146 institutions and nearly 10,000 pupils. It may, however, be doubted whether this decrease represents any real diminution in the amount of effective education given. Of the pupils now in Primary Schools maintained or aided by local bodies, 50 per cent. are in the lowest infant class and 70 per cent. in the two infant classes combined, against only 25 per cent. in the Lower Primary stages and 5 per cent. in the Upper Primary. These figures suggest that about half the boys who attend schools go no further than the infant classes, and that many parents regard school not as a source of education but as a créche, from which any slight inconvenience or financial embarrassment will cause them to remove their children. In such circumstances fluctuations must appear from year to year and steady progress cannot be maintained, nor will an effective demand for education be created till the schools attain a higher standard of efficiency.

Training Institutions.

139. The opening of the new buildings of the Patna Training College in November 1915 enabled the authorities to increase the number of students from fifteen to forty and to open classes up to the Bachelor of Teaching standard. The rapid developments of recent years in training institutions

are now bearing fruit, and the number of trained teachers in employment rose by no less than 14 per cent.

140. The first step for the higher education of girls in the province was taken during the year by the formation of college classes attached to the Ravenshaw Girls' School, Cuttack, for the preparation of women students, for the Intermediate Examination as private students. The figures for secondary schools are disappointing in that a considerable increase in expenditure has not been accompanied by a rise in the number of students. In primary schools a small decrease in the number of girls at boys' schools is more than set off by a considerable increase in the number at girls' schools. **Female Education.**

141. The proportion of Muhammadans at school remained practically unchanged. Their tendency to desert primary schools in favour of special schools was still marked. **Muhammadan Education.**

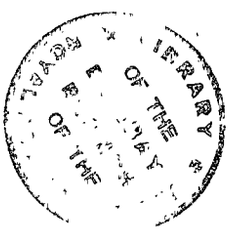
LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

142. With one exception, the tone of the press was excellent throughout the year. The only paper which seriously offended against the Press laws was the *Star of Utkal*, a publication edited by a retired educational officer who, in spite of repeated warnings, continued to publish articles calculated to bring British Administration into contempt and to excite class animosity. He was finally required to deposit security of Rs. 2,000, and on his declining to comply with the orders, his press was closed and the *Star of Utkal* ceased publication. **Newspapers.**

The Press has maintained a correct attitude towards the war and expressions of loyalty have been both fervid and frequent. Indeed one effect of the war has been to improve the general tone of the Press by dwarfing the smaller issues and points of difference.

PART II.

THE REPORT.



REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1915-16.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY—

	Page	Para.
PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES.		
HISTORICAL SUMMARY		
FORM OF ADMINISTRATION	*See* pages 1 to 129 of the Report for 1911-12.	
CHARACTER OF THE LAND TENURES; SYSTEM OF SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.		
CIVIL DIVISIONS OF BRITISH TERRITORY; DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS (1911), RIBES AND LANGUAGES.		
Creation of a High Court of Judicature at Patna	1	1
Orissa Circuit Court...	1	2
Jurisdiction	2	3
Lieutenant-Governor	2	4
CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION—		
Executive Council	2	5
Appointment of Sadr Subdivisional Officers...	2	6
Withdrawal of Powers	3	7
RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS—		
Political States of Chota Nagpur—		
Administration	3	8
Revenue	3	9
Material condition of the people ...	3	10
Administration of Justice	3	11
Jails	3	12
Forests	3	13
TRIBUTARY AND FEUDATORY STATES OF ORISSA—		
Administration of Land Revenue ...	3	14
Settlement	4	15
Crime	4	16
Administration of Justice	4	17
Jails	4	18
Forests	4	19

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
TRIBUTARY AND FEUDATORY STATES OF ORISSA—*continued.*		
Excise	4	20
Public Works	4	21
Material condition of the people ...	4	22
Public Health	4	23
Education	5	24
Contribution of the States towards the war	5	25
CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE—		
Patna Division	5	26
Tirhut Division	5	27
Bhagalpur Division	5	28
Orissa Division	6	29
Chota Nagpur Division	6	30

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND—

REALIZATION OF REVENUE—		
Collection of Land Revenue	7	31
Operations of the Sale Law	7	32
Redemption of Land Revenue	7	33
Miscellaneous Revenue	7	34
Sale of Government Estates	7	35
Payment of Revenue and Rent by money orders	7	36
Working of the Bengal Cess Act, 1880 ...	8	37
Rate of Cess	8	38
Collections and demand	8	39
Certificate Procedure	8	40
Land Registration	8	41
Partition	9	42
SURVEYS—		
Outturn of the year	9	43
Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office ...	9	44

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
Land Records and Settlements.		
General	9	45
Future Programme	9	46
Staff	9	47
Permanently-settled Estates, South Bihar / Gaya ...	9	48
Rent Disputes	10	49
Rent receipts	10	50
Relations between landlords and tenants ...	10	51
Recovery of costs	10	52
Cost	10	53
Chota Nagpur Settlement, Programme and Staff	10	54
Singhbhum	10	55
Hazaribagh	10	56
Palamau	10	57
Agrarian conditions in Palamau ...	10	58
North Bihar Revision Settlement, staff and operations	11	59
Progress of the Revision in the Saran District	11	60
Features of the Revision	11	61
Cost of operations in Saran	11	62
Work in Champaran	11	63
Rent questions	12	64
Relations between landlords and tenants ...	12	65
Corruption	12	66
Resurvey of the Boundary between Gorakhpur and Champaran	12	67
Cost of operations in Champaran ...	12	68
Maintenance of Land Records in Sambalpur	13	69
Maintenance of boundary marks ...	13	70
Government Estates—		
Number and management of Government Estates	13	71
Improvements	13	72
Education	13	73
Roads and Communications	13	74
Condition of raiyats	13	75

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates—		
Number of estates under management ...	14	76
Payment of Government demands ...	14	77
Rent and Cesses due to superior landlords ...	14	78
Collection of rent and cesses due to estates ...	14	79
Balances of rent and cesses due to estates ...	14	80
Management charges	14	81
Improvements	14	82
Education of Wards	14	83
Revenue and Rent-paying Classes—		
Tenancy Acts	14	84
Payment of rent	15	85
Rent suits in Orissa and Chota Nagpur ...	15	86
Relations between landlords and tenants ...	15	87
CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—		
Legislative Authority ... Pages 144 to 148 of the Report for 1911-12.		
Legislative Council	16	88
Courses of Legislation—		
Bills introduced and passed	16	89
The Patna Administration Act, 1915 ...	16	90
The Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, 1915 ...	16	91
The Bihar and Orissa Cess (Amendment) Act, 1916	16	92
The Bihar and Orissa Medical Act, 1916 ...	16	93
The Bihar and Orissa Decentralization Act, 1915	17	94
Police—		
Force	17	95
Additional Police	17	96
Discipline	17	97
Rural Police	18	98
Political Crime	18	99
Professional Crime	18	100
Criminal Tribes	18	101

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
POLICE—*continued.*		
Ordinary Crime	19	102
False cases	19	103
Security cases	19	104
Remands	19	105
MORTALITY CAUSED BY WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES—		
Wild animals	19	106
Snakes	19	107
Cattle killed by wild animals	19	108
Destruction of wild animals	19	109
CRIMINAL JUSTICE—		
Judicial Staff	19	110
Magisterial Staff	19	111
Number of offences reported	20	112
True cases	20	113
False cases	20	114
Cases brought to trial	20	115
ORIGINAL JURISDICTION—		
I.—Results of trials and proceedings in the Magistrates' Courts—		
Disposals	20	116
Results of trials	20	117
Nature of Sentences	21	118
Punishments	21	119
Proceedings under the Criminal Procedure Code—		
(*a*) Preventive action	21	120
(*b*) Abatement of nuisances ...	22	121
(*c*) Compensation	22	122
(*d*) Maintenance	22	123
Witnesses	22	124
II.—Courts of Sessions—		
Commitments and trials	22	125
Results of trials	22	126
Punishments	22	127
Jury trials	23	128
Trials by Assessors	23	129
Duration of cases	23	130
Witnesses	23	131

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
APPELLATE JURISDICTION—		
I.—High Court—		
Appeals	23	132
Result of appeals	23	133
Appeals against acquittals	23	134
II.—Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court—		
Sessions Courts	23	135
Magistrates' Courts	24	136
SUPERINTENDENCE, REFERENCE AND REVISION—		
I.—High Court—		
References under section 307, Criminal Procedure Code	24	137
References under section 374, Criminal Procedure Code	24	138
Revision	24	139
Applications for transfer	24	140
II.—Courts subordinate to the High Court—		
Sessions Courts	24	141
Magistrates' Courts	25	142
III.—General—		
Trials of European British subjects ...	25	143
Results of criminal work	25	144
Receipts and charges	25	145
Criminal Justice in Scheduled Districts—		
Santal Parganas and Angul ...	25	146
JAILS—		
General condition of Prisoners ...	25	147
Juvenile offenders	25	148
Subsistence Allowance to Prisoners on release from Jails	26	149
Subordinate establishment	26	150
Administration	26	151
Jail Press	26	152
CIVIL JUSTICE—		
Judicial staff	26	153
Original Jurisdiction—		
Original suits instituted	26	154
Local distribution	26	155

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
CIVIL JUSTICE—*continued.*		
Nature of suits instituted	27	156
Number of suits disposed of	27	157
Results of suits	27	158
Suits decided by Munsifs	27	159
Suits decided by Subordinate Judges ...	28	160
Disposals by Small Cause Courts ...	28	161
Average duration of suits	28	162
Pending suits	28	163
Execution Proceedings	28	164
Miscellaneous cases	29	165
APPELLATE JURISDICTION—		
I.—Appeals in the High Court—		
Appeals from Subordinate Courts ...	29	166
Results of appeals	29	167
II.—Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court—		
Appeals instituted	29	168
Appeals disposed of	30	169
Appeals pending	30	170
Results of appeals	30	171
Miscellaneous appeals	30	172
Receipts and charges	30	173
CIVIL JUSTICE IN SCHEDULED DISTRICTS—		
Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khond Mahals)	30	174
REGISTRATION—		
Offices	30	175
Statistics	30	176
Registration in various Divisions ...	31	177
Patna Division	31	178
Tirhut Division	31	179
Bhagalpur Division	31	180
Orissa Division	31	181
Chota Nagpur Division	31	182
Working of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913—Number of Companies ...	31	183
Capital	31	184
Foreign Companies	31	185
Liquidation Proceedings	31	186
Liquidator's statement	32	187
Fees	32	188
Penalties	32	189
Certificates	32	190
Rules and orders	32	191
Working of Act XXI of 1860 ...	32	192
Working of Acts V and VI of 1912 ...	32	193
Brahmo Marriage Act, III of 1872 ...	32	194
Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act and Qazis' Act	33	195
MUNICIPALITIES—		
Number of Municipalities	33	196
Constitution of the Municipalities ...	33	197
Elections	33	198
Number of meetings and attendance of Commissioners	33	199
Assessment and taxation	33	200
Collections	34	201
Income and expenditure	34	202
Closing balance	35	203
INCOME—		
Income-Tax on houses and lands ...	35	204
Tolls on roads and ferries	35	205
Water-rate	35	206
Conservancy including scavenging and latrine rates	35	207
Contributions	35	208
EXPENDITURE—		
Office and Collection Establishment ...	35	209
Lighting	35	210
Water-supply	36	211
Drainage	36	212
Conservancy	36	213
Hospitals and Dispensaries	36	214

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
EXPENDITURE—*continued.*		
Plague and other epidemic disease charges	37	215
Public works	37	216
Public Instruction	37	217
Loans	37	218
Unpaid bills	37	219
Audit of accounts and embezzlements ...	37	220
General Progress	38	221
THE PURI LODGING HOUSE ACT—		
Extent of application	38	222
Number of licensed Lodging Houses and Lodgers	38	223
Offences under the Act	38	224
Income	38	225
Expenditure	38	226
Health and Sanitation	38	227
DISTRICT BOARDS—		
Number of District and Local Boards and of Union Committees ...	39	228
District Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members ...	39	229
Local Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members ...	39	230
Constitution of the Boards	39	231
Work of the Local Boards	39	232
Union Committees	39	233
Financial Results	39	234
INCOME—		
Land Revenue	41	235
Provincial Rates	41	236
Police Pounds	41	237
Ferries	41	238
Contributions	41	239
Loans	41	240
EXPENDITURE—		
Administration	41	241
Education	42	242
Special Schools	42	243
Medical	42	244

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
EXPENDITURE—*concluded.*		
Sanitation	42	245
Veterinary charges	43	246
Pension	43	247
Famine Relief	43	248
Railways and Tramways	43	249
Civil works	43	250
Railway feeder roads	43	251
Water-supply and waterworks ...	43	252
Drainage	43	253
Arboriculture	43	254
Closing balance	44	255
Acts and Bills	44	256
VOLUNTEERING	44	257
MARINE—		
The Ports of Orissa—		
Finance	44	258
Trade	44	259
Arrivals and departures of vessels ...	44	260
Inspections	44	261
Health of the ports	44	262
STEAM BOILER COMMISSION—		
Administration of the Act	45	263
Inspection of boilers	45	264
CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—		
AGRICULTURE—		
Organization	46	265
Agricultural stations	46	266
„ education	46	267
Research and Experiments	46	268
Agricultural Associations, fairs and shows	47	269
„ Engineering and well-boring	47	270
Publication of Agricultural information ...	47	271
Arboriculture	47	272
Fisheries	47	273

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
VETERINARY DEPARTMENT—		
Veterinary Instruction	48	274
Organization and Staff	48	275
Cattle diseases	48	276
Dispensaries	48	277
Breeding operations	48	278
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—		
General Progress	49	279
Central Banks	49	280
Agricultural Societies	50	281
Non-Agricultural Societies	50	282
Other forms of Co-operation	50	283
Indirect effects	51	284
WEATHER AND CROPS—		
Character of the Season	51	285
Bhadoi or Autumn crops	52	286
Aghani crops—winter rice	52	287
Rabi crops	52	288
Jute	52	289
Indigo	52	290
Tea	52	291
Sugarcane and Sugar	52	292
FORESTS—		
Changes in the Administration ...	53	293
Communications and buildings ...	53	294
Forest offences	53	295
Protection from fire	54	296
Protection against injuries from natural causes and from cattle	54	297
Financial results	54	298
MANUFACTURES AND MINES.—		
Jute	54	299
Indigo	54	300
Tea	54	301
Sugar	54	302
Coal	54	303
Iron	54	304

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*contd.*

	Page	Para.
MANUFACTURES AND MINES—		
Copper ore	54	305
Mica	54	306
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES AND INDUSTRIES IN EACH DIVISION—		
Patna Division	55	307
Tirhut Division	55	308
Bhagalpur Division	55	309
Orissa Division	56	310
Chota Nagpur Division	56	311
WORKING OF THE INDIAN FACTORIES ACT—		
Number of factories and system of work	56	312
Inspections	56	313
General health of operatives ...	57	314
Wages and general condition of operatives	57	315
Employment of women and children...	57	316
Fencing of machinery ...	57	317
Accidents	57	318
Prosecutions, strikes and fires ...	57	319
TRADE—		
I.—FOREIGN SEA-BORNE TRADE—		
Foreign Trade	57	320
II.—COASTING TRADE—		
Coasting trade	57	321
III.—FRONTIER TRADE—		
Nepal	58	322
Imports	58	323
Exports	58	324
IV.—TRADE BY RAILWAY AND RIVER—		
Division and value of trade ...	58	325
Imports	59	326
Exports	59	327
Internal Trade	59	328
PUBLIC WORKS—		
Establishments—		
Administrative changes	59	329
Subordinate and Ministerial Establishments	60	330

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
BUILDINGS—		
Imperial Works—		
Military works	60	331
Civil Works—Post and Telegraph Offices	60	332
Miscellaneous	60	333
PROVINCIAL WORKS—		
Court Buildings—Judges' Courts ...	60	334
Magistrates and Munsif's Courts ...	60	335
Circuit Houses	61	336
Buildings—Excise	61	337
Jails	61	338
Police	61	339
Education	61	340
Medical	62	341
Registration	62	342
Monuments and Antiquities ...	62	343
Burial-grounds	62	344
Residences for Lieutenant-Governor ...	62	345
Residences for other Government officials	62	346
Government buildings, Ranchi	63	347
Works at the New Capital ...	63	348
Agricultural Buildings	63	349
Public Works Department Buildings ...	63	350
Miscellaneous	63	351
Contribution	63	352
Statement of Expenditure	64	353
COMMUNICATIONS—		
Miscellaneous Public Improvements—		
Projects for a through trunk road between Bihar and Orissa ...	64	354
Roads in the New Capital	64	355
Other works of communication ...	65	356
Chota Nagpur	65	357
Orissa	65	358
Protective works	65	359
Drainage	65	360
Electric Supply	65	361

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
RAILWAYS—		
Administration	66	362
Additions to mileage	66	363
Total mileages	66	364
Lines sanctioned for construction ...	66	365
Surveys sanctioned	66	366
Accidents	67	367
CANALS—IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION—		
Expenditure	67	368
Areas irrigated	67	369
Length of Canals	67	370
Navigation	68	371
Protective Irrigation Works	68	372
Tribeni Canal	68	373
Dhaka Canal	68	374
Major Works	68	375
ORISSA CANAL	69	376
Rainfall	69	377
Irrigation	69	378
Navigation receipts	69	379
Financial results	69	380
Floods	69	381
SONE CANALS	69	382
Rainfall	69	383
Irrigation	69	384
Navigation receipts	70	385
Financial results	70	386
Floods	70	387
Karamnasa irrigation scheme	70	388
TRIBENI CANAL	70	389
Distributaries and village Canals... ...	70	390
Rainfall	70	391
Floods	70	392
Irrigation	70	393
Financial results	71	394

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*concluded.*

	Page	Para
CANALS—IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION—*continued.*		
DHAKA CANAL	71	395
Financial results	71	396
Rainfall	71	397
Floods	71	398
Irrigation	71	399
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION—		
Orissa Coast Canal	71	400
Saran Canal	71	401
Teur (Madhuban) Canal	71	402
Kiul river scheme	72	403
EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE—		
Classification of Embankments	72	404
Expenditure	72	405
Length of Embankments	72	406
Floods	72	407
Breaches	72	408
Surveys and Investigations	73	409
Original Works	73	410
Repairs	73	411
Drainage	73	412

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE—

IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE—		
Imperial Receipts and Expenditure ...	74	413
SOURCES OF REVENUE OTHER THAN LAND—		
Customs—		
Customs Revenue	76	414
Breach of Customs Laws	76	415
Indian Merchandise Marks Act	76	416
SALT—		
Imports	76	417
Consumption and prices	77	418
Preventive measures	77	419
Receipts and charges	77	420
Trade in Saltpetre	77	421

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
EXCISE—		
Administrative changes	77	422
Local Advisory Committees	78	423
Result of settlements	78	424
Revenue	78	425
Country Spirit	78	426
Revision of rates of duty...	78	427
Maximum and minimum prices ...	78	428
Tari	78	429
Pachwai	78	430
Foreign liquors	79	431
Ganja	79	432
Bhang	79	433
Charas	79	434
Opium	79	435
Cocaine	79	436
Excise offences	79	437
STAMPS—		
Revenue	79	438
Judicial Stamps	80	439
Non-Judicial Stamps	80	440
Sale of Stamps	80	441
Deficit Duty	80	442
Prosecutions under the Stamps Act ...	80	443
Working of section 19-H of the Court-Fees Act.	80	444
INCOME-TAX—		
Financial results	80	445
Collections	80	446
Assessment	80	447
PROVINCIAL FINANCE—		
Receipts and Expenditure	81	448
Variations	83	449
LOCAL FINANCE—		
Balance	84	450

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE—*concluded.*

ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS CESSES—

	Page	Para.
Rate at which levied	85	451
Demands and Realization	85	452
Working of the Certificate Procedure ...	85	453
Valuations and Revaluations	85	454

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE—

VITAL STATISTICS—

Climatic conditions	86	455
Vital Statistics	86	456
Registration of Vital occurrences ...	86	457
Cholera	86	458
Small-pox	86	459
Fevers	86	460
Plague	87	461
Dysentery and Diarrhœa	87	462
Respiratory diseases	87	463

INLAND EMIGRATION—

Administrative measures	87	464
Number of emigrants	88	465
Criminal cases	88	466
Inland Labour Transport Fund ...	89	467

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS—

Number of Dispensaries	89	468
Number of patients treated	89	469
Diseases treated	89	470
Finance	89	471
Medical Schools	89	472
Leper Asylums	90	473

LUNATIC ASYLUMS—

Population, Admission and Discharge ...	90	474
Finance	90	475

SANITATION—

Sanitary Improvements	90	476
Staff	90	477
Sanitary School	90	478
Chemical and Bacteriological Laboratory ...	91	479
Sanitary Laboratory	91	480
„ Survey	91	481

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE—*continued.*

VACCINATION—	Page	Para.
Small-pox and Vaccination	91	482

POISONS ACT—

The Working of the Poisons Act ...	91	483

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION—

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

(*See pages* 220-225 of the Report for 1911-1912.)

EDUCATION—

General Statistics	92	484
Arts Colleges	92	485
Secondary Education	93	486
Primary Education	93	487
The Training of Teachers	94	488
Law Colleges, Medical, Engineering, Surveying and Commercial Schools ...	94	489
Industrial and Technical Schools ...	94	490
The Education of Indian girls and women	94	491
European Schools	95	492
Muhammadan Education	95	493
Study of Sanskrit	95	494
Reformatory School	95	495
Hostels	95	496
Physical Training and Moral Instruction ...	96	497
Conferences and Committees	96	498

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS—

Publications registered	96	499
Newspapers	96	500

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETIES IN BIHAR AND ORISSA, vide PAGE 229 OF THE REPORT FOR 1911-1912.

Arts and Sciences	*Nil.*

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY—

ARCHÆOLOGY—

Pataliputa Excavations	97	501
Nalanda Excavations	97	502
Conservation	97	503

Where at the head of any Section of the Report reference is made to a Departmental Annual Report the figures given are figures for the year covered by that Report. Elsewhere the figures quoted are those of the financial year, from 1st *April* 1915 *to* 31st *March* 1916.

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1915-1916.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

For—

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES; SYSTEM OF SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF BRITISH TERRITORY.

DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS, TRIBES AND LANGUAGES.

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 1-129.

Creation of a High Court of Judicature at Patna.

1. The most important event of the year was the opening on March 1st, 1916, of a High Court of Judicature at Patna for the Province of Bihar and Orissa. The following were the first Judges of the new Court :— **Creation of High Court at Patna.**

Chief Justice.—Sir Edward Maynard Des Champs Chamier, Kt.

Puisne Judge.—Mr. Saiyid Sharf-ud-din, Barrister-at-Law,

Mr. Edward Pelly Chapman,
Mr. Basanta Kumar Mallick,
Mr. Francis Reginald Roe,
The Hon'ble Cecil Atkinson, K.C.,
Rai Bahadur Jwala Prasad.

Of the Puisne Judges Messrs. E. P. Chapman, B. K. Mallick and F. R. Roe are officers of the Indian Civil Service.

It had originally been proposed that the number of Judges should be six only but the Secretary of State finally accepted the view that the initial strength of the Court should be seven. Mr. W. S. Coutts, I.C.S., was appointed the first Registrar, while the post of Government Advocate and Public Prosecutor was given to Mr. P. C. Manuk, Bar-at-Law and that of Government Pleader to the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Saiyid Fakhr-ud-din.

2. It was also laid down by the Letters Patent constituting the Patna High Court that one or more Judges shall at least four times a year visit the Orissa Division on Circuit. For the present the Circuit Court will be held at Cuttack and the District Judge of Cuttack was appointed to be *ex-officio* Registrar, and the Government Pleader of Cuttack to be *ex-officio* Public Prosecutor and **Orissa Circuit Court.**

Government Pleader of this Court. Rules were also laid down relating to fees, costs and preservation of records, and to cases arising in the Orissa Division.

Jurisdiction.

3. The cessation of jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court over the Province of Bihar and Orissa is governed by clause 39 of the Letters Patent, which runs as follows :—

> And We do further ordain that the jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in any matter in which jurisdiction is by these presents given to the High Court of Judicature at Patna shall cease from the date of the publication of these presents, and that all proceedings pending in the former Court on that date in reference to any such matters shall be transferred to the latter Court.

Provided, first, that the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal shall continue to exercise jurisdiction—

> (*a*) in all proceedings pending in that Court on the date of the publication of these presents, in which any decree or order, other than an order of an interlocutory nature, has been passed or made by that Court, or in which the validity of any such decree or order is directly in question ; and
>
> (*b*) in all proceedings [not being proceedings referred to in paragraph (*a*) of this clause] pending in that Court, on the date of the publication of these presents, under the 13th, 15th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, or 35th clause of the Letters Patent bearing date at Westminster the twenty-eighth day of December in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, relating that Court ; and
>
> (*c*) in all proceedings instituted in that Court, on or after the date of the publication of these presents, with reference to any decree or order passed or made by that Court :

Provided, secondly, that, if any question arises as to whether any case is covered by the first proviso to this clause, the matter shall be referred to the Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature of Fort William in Bengal, and his decision shall be final.

Changes in the Administration.

Lieutenant-Governor.

4. The Hon'ble Sir Charles Bayley, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., I.S.O., resigned the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa on the afternoon of the 19th November 1915, when the Hon'ble Sir Edward Gait, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., succeeded him.

Executive Council.

5. The Hon'ble Sir Edward Gait, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., held offices as a Member of the Executive Council and Vice-President of the Council up to the 19th November 1915, when the Hon'ble Sir Edward Levinge, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., succeeded him in the latter appointment and the Hon'ble Sir William Vincent, KT., in the former. The Hon'ble Sir Edward Levinge and the Hon'ble Maharaja Bahadur Sir Rameshwara Singh, G.C.I.E., of Darbhanga, continued to hold office as Members of the Executive Council throughout the year. In February 1916 the services of the Hon'ble Sir William Vincent were placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of India. The temporary vacancy on the Council was filled by the Hon'ble Mr. W. Maude, C.S.I.

Appointment of Sadr Subdivisional Officers.

6. In July 1915 the Government of India sanctioned the appointment of Sadr Subdivisional Officers in all districts of the Province. This measure, which was recommended by the Royal Commission on Decentralization, and had for a long time been engaging the consideration of the Local Government, will not only facilitate the territorial distribution of criminal cases at the district headquarters, but will ensure more efficient administrative control in the mufassal areas by increasing the opportunities for touring and inspection, and by bringing the executive officers of Government into closer contact with

the people ; complete effect has been given to it in all districts possessing Sadr Subdivisions.

7. With the concurrence of the Government of India, the special powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, exercised by the Deputy Commissioners in the non-regulation districts of Ranchi, Manbhum and Sambalpur, were withdrawn. **Withdrawal of powers.**

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

POLITICAL STATES OF CHOTA NAGPUR.

[Report on these States for 1915-16 by the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.]

[Two States.—(1) Seraikela: area 449 square miles; population, 109,794; income, Rs. 1,05,685; Chief, Raja Bahadur Udit Narayan Singh Deo, aged 67. (2) Kharsawan: area, 153 square miles; population, 38,852; income, Rs. 47,162; Chief, Thakur Sriram Chandra Singh Deo, aged 25.]

8. The States continued under the administration of their respective Chiefs. In Seraikela Jubaraj Aditya Pratap Singh Deo, grandson and heir-apparent, continued his keen interest in its administration and material improvement and maintained strict economy in every direction. **Administration.**

9. The percentage of collections in Seraikela and Kharsawan fell from 56·36 and 94·85 to 44·93 and 82·70, respectively, owing to failure of crops as a result of insufficient rainfall. Excise revenue decreased in Seraikela but increased in Kharsawan. **Revenue.**

10. In neither of the States was the year prosperous from an agricultural point of view. The outturn of paddy was 30 to 50 per cent. in Seraikela and 62 per cent. in Kharsawan against 60 per cent. and 80 per cent., respectively, in the previous year. Public health was generally good. The two States allow voluntary emigration to labour districts. **Material condition of the people.**

11. The number of persons brought to trial in Seraikela and Kharsawan shows a decrease of thirteen and thirty-nine, respectively, as compared with the figures for the previous year. The average duration of civil, revenue and execution cases in Seraikela was 54, 55 and 53 days against 60, 51 and 54 days, respectively, and in Kharsawan 55, 35 and 55 days against 54, 128 and 54 days, respectively. **Administration of justice.**

12. The jail population of both the States shows a slight decrease. The jail and thana in Kharsawan, which formed practically one institution, were separated during the year and the establishment of each was revised. **Jails.**

13. There was a decrease in the revenue from forests in both States. The demarcation of forest boundaries as a preliminary step to the formation of blocks and specification of reserved areas is in progress in Seraikela. **Forests.**

Tributary and Feudatory States of Orissa.

[Report on the States for 1915-16 by the Commissioner of Orissa.]

[Number of States, 24; total area, 28,046 square miles; population, 3,796,563; gross revenue, Rs. 58,12,051.]

14. The States of Baud, Daspalla, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Narsinghpur, Nayagarh, Nilgiri, Pal Lahara and Rairakhol continued under the administration of Government. The State of Bonai was released from Government management under certain conditions, and the remaining thirteen States, viz., Athgarh, Athmallik, Bamra, Baramba, Dhenkanal, Gangpur, Hindol, Khandpara, Patna, Ranpur, Sonpur, Talcher and Tigiria were under the administration of their respective Chiefs. The collection of land revenue in the States was generally good, and in spite of the unfavourable agricultural conditions, showed considerable improvement on the previous year. The attention paid recently by the State to this important branch of their administration is satisfactory. **Administration of land revenue.**

Settlement.

15. Settlement operations were in progress in eleven of the States. In Athmallik, Keonjhar, Khandpara and Sonpur the operations were nearing completion. In Daspalla they had again to be postponed, owing to the partial failure of the crops.

Crime.

16. The total number of cases reported to the police was 11,037 against 8,889 in the previous year. The increase was, as in the last year, mostly in petty thefts and burglaries, owing to poor harvests. The general administration of the police continues to improve yearly and in some States very marked improvement has been achieved, with the result that the people place greater confidence in the police and crime is more satisfactorily reported. Five candidates from the States are under training at the Police Training College at Hazaribagh, bringing the total number of candidates from the States trained at the College up to sixty-seven. The system of taking regular finger impressions of criminals was extended and the States are now beginning to send them to the Finger Print Bureau. It is satisfactory to note that with expanding revenues the States are making a genuine endeavour to take adequate steps for the preservation of law and order.

Administration of Justice.

17. The increase of 381 over the figure of last year in the number of cases brought to trial was shared by sixteen States, the remaining eight showing a decrease. The general improvement, observed last year, in the duration of trials was maintained, these lasting 5·62 days and 11·73 days on the average in police and complaint cases, respectively, against 5·25 days and 12·29 days in 1914. The total number of civil suits disposed of during the year shows a decrease of 522 cases from the figure of the previous year. The average duration of contested suits was 55·54 days against 53·57 days and of uncontested suits 25·50 days against 25·48 days. Though litigation is gradually increasing in bulk, value, and complexity, there is a steady improvement in the prompt disposal of civil suits.

Jails.

18. The average daily population of the State jails increased from 64·19 to 78·27. The increase, due chiefly to a large number of petty thefts and burglaries, was shared by twenty States. In one State the average was the same as that of last year, while the remaining three States show a decrease. There has been continued improvement both in the buildings and in the administration of the prisons and more attention is being given every year by the States to the development of jail industries.

Forests.

19. The total income from forests amounted to Rs. 9,68,087 against Rs. 9,64,760 of the previous year. This increase is specially satisfactory in view of the decrease last year owing to slackness in the timber trade. There would have been a heavy fall in the forest revenue had not two substantial and reliable firms, who hold forest leases in the States, carried on their business fully in spite of the unfavourable market. The Chiefs entertained adequate forest staffs in the States administered by them. The improvement in the management of the forests under the charge of the Agency Forest Officer was well maintained.

Excise.

20. There was a slight decrease in the total revenue from excise from Rs. 6,97,033 to Rs. 6,87,331. The Cooch Behar system of supply of Rajshahi *Ganja* to the States continued to work satisfactorily.

Public Works.

21. The total expenditure on public works in the States rose by Rs. 5,27,218. The steady increase from year to year has had a considerable effect in improving the communications and public buildings of the States.

Material condition of the people.

22. The year was on the whole not very prosperous. Insufficient and unevenly distributed rains caused a partial failure of the crops in certain areas, though over the greater part of the States the produce was fair to good. The average outturn of paddy and *rabi* crops was eleven and ten annas. In three States damage was done by insect pests.

Public health.

23. Public health continued good and there was no outbreak of any disease in epidemic form. The States are taking an interest in the development of dispensaries and in matters of sanitation. The results of vaccination and re-vaccination operations show improvement.

24. The decrease from 2,129 to 1,902 in the number of schools was due partly to the abolition and amalgamation of schools for the sake of convenience in accordance with the actual requirements of the people at suitable centres and partly to poor harvests in certain areas. The total number of pupils also decreased from 82,548 to 77,996 as the result of weeding out from the schools the students who were persistently guilty of irregular attendance. The States are yearly paying more attention to female education and to the employment of female teachers. The number of special schools for low-caste children rose from eighteen to sixty-four. **Education.**

25. The loyalty of the States in contributing men, money, and material towards the maintenance of the war has been conspicuous. Last year the Chiefs and their subjects gave Rs. 3,33,521 to the various war funds. In the year under review their contributions amounted to Rs. 31,439, while the Chiefs of Patna, Sonpur and Bamra each gave a further donation of Rs. 8,000 for a motor ambulance to be named after their States. The Chief of Sonpur again subscribed Rs. 4,444 for comforts for the troops and has recently offered to give two machine guns for the British forces. **Contribution of the States towards the war.**

Condition of the people.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration, 1915-16.]

26. In the district of Patna the harvests were generally good. The demand for labour and consequent high rates of wages contributed to the prosperity of the labouring classes, but the middle classes, who depend on fixed income, are suffering under existing conditions. In Gaya the condition of the people was less satisfactory, but they have been considerably benefited by the establishment of co-operative societies. The labour market was affected by the dullness of the mining and other industries, and the labouring classes did not find as much employment in Calcutta and other centres of labour as before the war. No noticeable economic development is reported from any of the districts in the Patna Division. **Patna Division.**

27. The condition of the people was far from satisfactory on account of the floods in the months of August and September 1915 which almost completely washed away the *bhadoi* crops in Muzaffarpur and badly damaged those in Champaran and Darbhanga. But good *aghani* and *rabi* crops and the timely distribution of *takavi* loans by Government went a great way to alleviate the distress. The Co-operative Banks also did good service. The prices of food-grains remained high in nearly all the districts. The wages of the labouring classes increased in proportion to the rise in the prices of food-stuffs. The condition of these classes is reported to be improving as large numbers find employment in collieries, mills, factories and on railways, etc. This is not the case in respect of the middle classes, especially in the Muzaffarpur district, where their condition is reported to be deteriorating for want of remunerative employment, due to the high cost of living and to the want of enterprise on their part, which prevents them taking up any new occupation. During the year there was a marked revival of the indigo industry in the division owing to the war and the consequent stoppage of the supply of synthethic dyes. A new sugar factory was opened at Lohat in Darbhanga. A new oil-mill which is used also for rice was also started in the district. A new agricultural Museum is in course of construction in Muzaffarpur town. The health of the people was on the whole satisfactory. **Tirhut Division.**

28. Except in Monghyr, where there was a short outturn of the *rabi* crop due to scanty rainfall and to floods, the outturn of three principal crops in the division was generally good. Immediate assistance was given in Monghyr by grants of money and distribution of food for men and cattle, and *takavi* loans were issued subsequently. The health of the people was good on the whole except in Purnea where malarial fever was common as usual. The grain *golas* of the Pakaur, Rajmahal and Godda Subdivisions in the district of the Santal Parganas which gave loans of rice to needy tenants, were converted into Co-operative Banks, and ten village societies were formed in the Pakaur Subdivision. A technical and industrial school was opened at Benagaria in the **Bhagalpur Division.**

Santal Parganas, under the care of the Mission of the Northern Churches, and a scheme is on foot for the establishment of such a school in each subdivision of the district.

Orissa Division.

29. The heavy and unseasonable rainfall in November damaged the crops in Puri. The larger outturn of the crops in the Cuttack and Balasore districts is reported to have made no change in the material condition of the people, beyond enabling them to pay off in part debts incurred in the two preceding years. Prices of food-grains ruled higher than in the preceding year while the wages of the agricultural labourers and artisans remained stationary. The cultivators of jute in the Kendrapara subdivision of Cuttack had a prosperous year. Conditions bordering on scarcity prevailed in Angul and Balasore till the harvests were gathered in, but the situation was relieved by the grant of gratuitous relief and loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, and the opening of relief works. Public health was fairly good except in parts of Cuttack, Balasore and Angul where cholera and small-pox broke out. The establishment of a number of Co-operative Societies in the Banki and Khurda Government estates is reported to have effected some improvement in the condition of the agricultural classes. The reformation work among the Pans in Angul started by the Salvation Army promises well, and possesses great potentiality for the development of this backward district. The other existing industries in the division were, on the whole, in a prosperous condition.

Chota Nagpur Division.

30. The agricultural conditions of the people were less satisfactory and crops were generally poor for want of seasonable rain. The very scanty rainfall in parts of the districts of Manbhum and Singhbhum caused scarcity in the Kolhan and other portions of the district of Singhbhum, and in Manbazar and Hura thanas in Manbhum. In Singhbhum scarcity was formally declared. In Manbhum test works were opened by the District Board and gratuitous relief was distributed at selected centres. The crops in Hazaribagh also were generally poor. The large demand for labour in the coal fields, iron works and lac factories, attracted large numbers of labourers into the districts of Manbhum and Singhbhum. The health of the people was generally satisfactory. The Chota Nagpur Banking Association, with its branches at Giridih, Ranchi, Purulia and Daltonganj, has been doing business on an extensive scale. Co-operative Societies and temperance unions, which have been started by the Mission, are said to be gradually improving the standard of thrift among the Christians throughout the Ranchi district. There were numerous mining operations in the district of Singhbhum for gold, chromite, manganese, limestone and other minerals and metals. The war has accentuated the demand for chromite, but the success of the operations is reported to be doubtful. The opening of a motor service between Chakradharpur and Chaibassa by private enterprise proved a great boon to the district of Singhbhum and appears to have been a financial success.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Realization of the Revenue.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1915-16.]

Collection of Land Revenue.

31. The total number of estates paying land revenue was 106,532 against 105,105 in the preceding year, the increase was, as usual, mainly due to partitions. The current demand amounted to Rs. 1,51,24,645 showing an increase again of Rs. 34,160 which mainly accrued from estates held direct by Government. The percentages of total collections on total demand and of current collections on current demand were roughly the same as those of the previous year. Of the total sum of Rs. 10,196 remitted during the year, Rs. 1,663 represents remission of grace, Rs. 3,530 represents remission of right and Rs. 5,003 nominal remissions. The percentage of total remissions on the total demand was ·06 only. The whole of the remissions of grace and, with the exception of a small sum of Rs. 880 relating to temporarily-settled estates, the whole of the total remissions of right concerned estates held direct by Government.

Operations of the Sale Law.

32. The number of defaults in the payment of land revenue increased in all divisions except Bhagalpur. There were again no sales under Act XI of 1859 in the Chota Nagpur Division and no *chaukidari chakran* lands were sold during the year. No estate was sold in the district of Sambalpur for arrears of revenue under the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1881. Owing to the non-payment of land revenue 9,222 estates (including shares and interests) became liable to sale against 8,458 estates in the preceding year, and 384, or about 4·2 per cent., were actually sold as compared with 338 in 1914-15. The amount realized by sale was Rs. 2,81,236 or seven times the Government revenue of the properties sold. Ninety-two appeals were preferred to Commissioners against sales, of which fifteen were successful, while in fifteen cases recommendations for the annulment of sales on the ground of hardship were made, and were accepted by the Board.

Redemption of Land Revenue.

33. As in the preceding year, there was no case of redemption of land revenue in any district.

Miscellaneous Revenue.

34. The total collections of miscellaneous revenue, including those from forest lands in Government estates, increased from Rs. 6,56,707 to Rs. 8,82,604. The increase occurred mainly under the head " Recovery of Survey-Settlement charges."

In the Santal Parganas the receipts on account of royalty on *Sabai* amounted to only Rs. 1,405 against Rs. 7,146 in the preceding year. The total under " Other receipts " decreased again from Rs. 1,75,309 to Rs. 1,51,660 and the amount remitted under this head during the year was Rs. 26,930 against Rs. 11,715 in 1914-15.

Sale of Government Estates.

35. Fourteen estates, covering an area of 663 acres, were sold during the year for Rs. 10,923, subject to a total revenue demand of Rs. 954 and eight plots of Railway " A " class lands with a total area of 33,217 acres, three plots of Railway " B " class and three plots of Railway " C " class lands with a total area of 36·77 acres were sold for Rs. 2,087, Rs. 2,636 and Rs. 7,142 respectively.

Payment of revenue and Rent by Money orders.

36. The number of money orders issued for the payment of land revenue and cesses rose from 161,244 to 169,342, and the amounts covered by them from Rs. 12,11,827 to Rs. 13,11,509. On the other hand there was a fall of 3,106 in the number of money orders issued for the payment of rent and of Rs. 67,965 in the amount covered by them, the decrease being shared by all divisions. It

was most marked in the Bhagalpur Division where the number of money orders issued fell by nearly fifty per cent. Fluctuations occur from year to year, and there is no reason to suppose that the system of payment by money order is losing its popularity. In Shahabad the Collector attributes the decrease in the number of money orders for the payment of rent to the carelessness of the mufassal post offices in returning the money order receipts to the remitters. A similar complaint was recently received from this district in regard to money orders for the payment of land revenue, and the matter has been brought to the notice of the Postmaster-General.

Working of the Bengal Cess Act, 1880.

37. The Bengal Cess Act has been partially amended by the Bihar and Orissa Cess Amendment Act, I of 1916, which came into force with effect from 3rd January 1916. The principal changes effected are the amalgamation of the Road and Public Works cesses into one "Local cess", the transfer of the entire proceeds to the District Boards and District Committees, less all charges on account of collection and revaluation operations, and the delegation of some of the powers exercised by Government under the Act to the Board of Revenue.

Rate of Cess.

38. Road and Public Works cesses continued to be levied at the maximum rate, for the two cesses combined, of one anna in the rupee on the annual value of lands or the annual net profits of mines or other immovable property throughout the province except in the districts of Angul and Sambalpur and the Kolhan Government Estate in the district of Singhbhum, where the Act is not in force.

In Sambalpur the rates for the maintenance of roads, schools and district post under the Central Provinces Local Self-Government Act were assessed at a lump sum at the settlement, and the demand for the year (Rs. 15,112) was realized in full.

Collections and demand.

39. The current cess demand for the year was Rs. 55,08,649 against Rs. 52,79,635 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,29,000 which was due mainly to the annual revision of the assessment on mines and forests, etc., in the districts of Manbhum and Ranchi, and also to the cess revaluation operations in the districts of Patna, Bhagalpur, Purnea, Cuttack, and Balasore. The actual collections amounted to Rs. 54,06,714 against Rs. 53,26,773 in the previous year. The percentage of total collections on the current demand exceeded the prescribed standard of a hundred per cent. in six districts against eight in the preceding year.

Certificate Procedure.

40. The number of certificates filed for the realization of cess arrears was 51,922 against 45,556 in the preceding financial year. Cases for disposal amounted to 61,174 as against 95,997 in the previous year, inclusive of those pending from the preceding year. Objections filed and disposed of numbered 3,339 and 3,208 against 3,134 and 3,012, respectively, in the previous year. Certificates had to be cancelled in 346 cases, as compared with 464 in the previous year.

Land Registration.

41. The number of applications for registration of succession of proprietary interests in land by purchase, inheritance, gift or otherwise for disposal, during the year was 48,887 of which 40,057 were disposed of. In Sambalpur 406 mutations were registered under section 125 of the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1881. Transfer lists were supplied regularly on the whole by civil courts, Sub-Registry and other offices, and registers are reported to be generally in good order, with the exception of some registers in Cuttack which have become unfit for use and the rewriting of which has been sanctioned by the Board of Revenue. The Board has also sanctioned the rewriting of Register D, in the districts of Shahabad and Monghyr, in the new combined form prescribed under section 19 A (*a*) of Act VII of 1876. The expenditure on account of land registration work amounted to Rs. 16,086 against Rs. 12,708 in the previous year, the increase being almost wholly due to the employment of special staff in Monghyr and Shahabad. The fees realized under section 64 of the Act amounted to Rs. 2,283 against Rs. 1,255 in the preceding year. In Sambalpur a sum of Rs. 106 was realized in mutation fees.

Two cases of fraudulent registration were detected during the year, one in Patna and the other in Muzaffarpur, both of which were adequately dealt with.

42. The number of partition cases instituted during the year was 379 and 468 cases were disposed of as against 441 and 390, respectively, in the preceding year. The total number of cases pending at the close of the year fell from 1,157 to 1,068. The number of cases pending for over two years also decreased from 497 to 429. **Partition.**

Surveys.

[Report of the Director of Land Records and Surveys, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending 30th October 1916.]

43. The outturn of the Traverse Survey during the year was 925 square miles in the district of Palamau, the cost rate being Rs. 34 for each square mile against Rs. 36·9 for 1914-15. **Outturn of the year.**

44. The Imperial Standard Mapping Section was employed on the preparation of Standard maps from the data supplied by recent surveys in the province. The outturn of the year included thirteen sheets, covering 3,277 square miles actually sent to the Map Publication Office, and four sheets, covering an area of 1,086 square miles, compiled and ready to be sent for publication. Twenty-seven standard sheets are in hand and eight sheets remain to be taken up. **Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.**

In the Provincial section the $\frac{1}{2}$" map of district Shahabad has been practically completed and progress has been made with a similar map for Patna District. One Skeleton District Map (of Monghyr), thirty-three thana maps and a number of Special Ganges diara maps were also compiled.

The cost rates under all heads are lower than in previous years, a result largely due to efficient supervision.

Land Records and Settlements.

[Report of the Director of Land Records and Surveys, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending 30th September 1916.]

45. Survey and Settlement operations were in progress during the year in six districts of the province. In original operations the area cadastrally surveyed comprised 1,147 square miles and in revisional operations 722 square miles. Preliminary records were written for these areas. Records were prepared for attestation for 1,868 square miles, attested for 4,779 square miles, and finally published for 4,376 square miles. The rents of 32,478 tenants were settled. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 8,77,964. **General.**

46. During the year the revision of the record-of-rights of Saran district was taken in hand. The Traverse Survey of the district of Manbhum, which was to have commenced, had to be postponed owing to financial stringency. No new programme was sanctioned during the year. **Future programme.**

47. The largest number of Settlement Officers employed during the field season was three against four in the preceding year. These were the Civilian Officers entrusted with the Major Settlements in South Bihar, North Bihar and Chota Nagpur. Of the total number of Assistant Settlement Officers (86 against 113 in the previous year), 41 were employed in North Bihar, 22 in South Bihar and 23 in Chota Nagpur. Two junior civilians were deputed to undergo training in Survey and Settlement for five and-a-half months and were placed in charge of responsible work. **Staff.**

48. The year's programme in South Bihar consisted of the attestation of 1,622 square miles comprising 1,350,000 plots in thanas Gaya, Barachatti, Sherghati and Rajauli. In the Khaira Mahal, which had undergone a Collectorate partition in recent years, the discrepancy between the Revenue Survey boundaries and those locally recognized gave rise to a number of disputes, which were decided in accordance with the batwara map. **Permanently-settled Estates, South Bihar. Gaya.**

Rent disputes.

49. The rent disputes were keenly contested and in most cases arose from attempts to enhance cash-rents or to alter the system of produce-rent. The latter was, as usual, a source of contention between landlords and tenants. The whole question is engaging the consideration of the Local Government who are awaiting the completion of the Settlement Operations in this area before deciding what changes, if any, should be made in the law governing the payment and commutation of produce-rents.

Orders were passed during the year that applications for commutation under section 40 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in the district of Gaya should be dealt with by the Collectorate, and not by the Settlement Staff.

Rent Receipts.

50. Of 119 cases of failure to grant proper rent-receipts, which were reported to the Collector for action under section 58 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 116 cases ended in conviction, the fines imposed amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 2,413.

Relation between landlords and tenants.

51. Generally speaking, it may be said that in the north of the area dealt with the raiyats, especially Rajputs and Babhans, are beginning to protect their own interests, but in the South they are completely at the mercy of the landlords, and the want of a subdivisional headquarters at Sherghati is indicated.

Recovery of costs.

52. The recovery of costs began in January 1916. Of the total demand of Rs. 4,86,725 all but Rs. 266 was recovered and certificate procedure had to be resorted to only in respect of Rs. 5,118.

Cost.

53. The direct cost incurred has been Rs. 2,41,831 including Rs. 3,287 in cost of cadastral work in October and November 1915. The indirect cost has been Rs. 21,072 including Rs. 6,614 as cost of the control by the Director of Land Records and Surveys. Receipts amounted to Rs. 8,834 in cash and Rs. 48,771 in stamps. The net cost was therefore Rs. 2,05,928.

Chota Nagpur Settlement. Programme and Staff.

54. In Chota Nagpur Cadastral Survey and Settlement operations were in progress in the districts of Hazaribagh, Singhbhum and Palamau. The Staff of superior officers consisted of a Settlement Officer and a number of Assistant Settlement Officers, 21 in the field season and 11 during recess.

Singhbhum.

55. The work done in Singhbhum covered an area of 636 square miles and included the completion of recess work and *khuntkatti* identification in the Kolhan Government Estates. The attestation of the second half of the Government Estate was postponed under Government orders, on account of the prevailing scarcity.

Hazaribagh.

56. In Hazaribagh the programme of the year consisted of—

(i) Recovery of costs of operations covering 2,639 square miles.

(ii) Disposal of post-publication suits and settlement of fair rents under section 85 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.

A number of applications for settlement of fair rents was also disposed of. Out of the total demand under recovery operations, which, including the balance outstanding at the end of the previous year, amounted to Rs. 4,53,660, a sum of Rs. 4,21,681 was collected.

Palamau.

57. Cadastral survey and preliminary record-writing of an area of 1,147 square miles were completed. The cost rate for each square mile was Rs. 100, against Rs. 75 for the area taken up in the previous year, the increase being due largely to the smallness of the area dealt with and a decrease in the average size of the plots measured.

In regard to settlement operations the chief work consisted of attestation and draft publication for 1,414 square miles, and final publication for an area of 1,172 square miles. The programme was almost completed.

Agrarian conditions in Palamau.

58. The chief features of the attestation were the prevalence of illegal enhancements, insecurity of tenure, and the failure of the landlords to grant receipts. The action of the Settlement Officer in checking these abuses aroused considerable opposition among the landlords who attacked his work in these and other matters, and presented three memorials to Government. Their

objections appear to have been generally supported by the Deputy Commissioner. A report submitted by the Director of Land Records, who inquired into the allegations, is under the consideration of the Local Government.

59. The operations comprised preliminary record-writing in Saran district and attestation, final publication, and case work in Champaran district. **North Bihar Revision Settlement.**

The superior staff consisted of a Civilian Settlement Officer and a number of Assistant Settlement Officers, 40 in the field season and 11 in recess. Of the Assistant Settlement Officers three were Civilians. **Staff and operations.**

The subordinate staff, which in previous years was very weak, was strongly reinforced from South Bihar.

60. The area embraced by the original programme was 1,119 square miles comprising thanas Mirganj, Gopalganj and Sewan. On receipt of Government orders, the operations in Sewan were suspended at the end of November, leaving an area of 788 square miles to be dealt with. This area was divided into six circles and was found to contain 1,426,835 plots. **Progress of the Revision in Saran District.**

61. The maps prepared during the last cadastral survey were adopted as the units of survey and record. In the area surveyed there were 3,255 trijunction marks of which 2,665 or 82 per cent. have been found. This is remarkable in view of the fact that many of the marks are not stones but earthenware cylinders. At trijunctions where the marks had disappeared stones have now been embedded. **Features of the revision.**

The number of fields was found to have increased since the last settlement by 27 per cent., the same percentage as that of the area surveyed last year in Champaran. As the population is far denser in Saran a larger increase might have been expected, but it is probable that the subdivision of fields had previously approached the economical limit.

62. The total expenditure (direct and auxiliary) for the season's area is Rs. 1,82,618. Of this sum Rs. 40,743 represents the cost of a new record-room, of a building for the cadastral office, and of instruments and tents, while an expenditure of Rs. 8,147 was incurred in Sewan before the suspension of operations. Deducting these items, the cost works out at Rs. 169 for each square mile against Rs. 107 in the previous year. The increase is due mainly to :— **Cost of operations in Saran.**

(1) The increase in the number of plots to the square mile, namely, 1,976 against 1,277 in the preceding year.

(2) The reduction of programme resulting in the heavier incidence of office and supervision charges.

(3) The strengthening of the supervising agency with a view to relieve the Assistant Settlement Officers who are mainly occupied in deciding disputes.

In the latter connection it may be mentioned that 19,731 disputes were instituted and all decided. The Saran raiyats are probably not less litigious than Champaran and the fact that the disputes averaged only 1·3 per cent. of the total number of plots against 1·8 per cent. in the previous year is due in some measure to the better control exercised by the superior agency over the field staff.

63. In Champaran the record for Bettiah Subdivision (excluding the *diara* portions of thanas Bagaha and Bettiah) was finally published. The case work of this subdivision, under sections 105 and 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, has been taken up from the 1st June. **Work in Champaran.**

The area under attestation was 1,743 square miles (the whole of the Sadr Subdivision with the *diara* areas of thanas Bagaha and Bettiah) containing nearly 2,200,000 plots. Progress was much more rapid than in the preceding season, and the programme was very nearly finished in April 1916. The officers employed were, as a body, very much better than in 1914-15 and the general standard of their work was high. Over one-fourth of the area the proceedings were prolonged and complicated by the very difficult question of Indigo enhancements which had to be decided without any kind of judicial precedent.

Rent questions.

64. The most important question of the year was the legality of the enhancement made by Indigo-planters in consideration of the abrogation of the raiyat's obligation to grow indigo on three-twentieths of the area of their holdings. The enhancements exceeded two annas in the rupee and professed to have been effected in accordance with the provisions of section 29, proviso (*iii*) of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The cases were referred for legal opinion which endorsed the principles adopted in deciding the cases. In the great majority of cases the enhanced rents were allowed, and in most of the remainder a compromise, under section 109-C of the Act, was effected. Except for this Indigo question no great difficulties were experienced.

Relations between landlords and tenants.

65. The relations between landlords and tenants were clouded by the bitter feeling engendered over the indigo dispute. While the resultant rents were not unfair, if judged by absolute tests, the enhancements were proportionally very heavy and the raiyats, though not in any sense reduced to uneconomic conditions, felt the economic change, and, given the hint by their leaders, gambled on the legality of the transaction in the hope of freeing themselves at once from the enhancements and from indigo cultivation. When it was explained to them that if the enhanced rents were disallowed it would be necessary to record the growing of indigo as an incident of tenancy, they generally agreed to the enhanced rents. For the ill-feeling which existed the landlords were by no means entirely responsible and the Settlement Officer has recorded that the Pipra concern, in which the relations were very strained, was the best managed zamindari with which he has come into contact, and that the management behaved during a trying period with a tact and patience deserving praise. The landlords in most cases readily agreed to reductions suggested by the Settlement Officer and many difficulties were thus avoided by the exercise of common sense.

Corruption.

66. A determined effort was made to suppress the receiving of illegal gratifications by subordinates. Since September 1913 some 200 subordinates have been dismissed or discharged and during the year under report five men were prosecuted, of whom three were convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment and two were acquitted. The prosecutions have had a healthy effect.

No suggestions were received reflecting on the honesty of the Gazetted staff. Had there been any foundation for suspicion, charges would certainly have been levelled at them in Champaran.

Re-survey of the boundary between Gorakhpur and Champaran.

67. It may be mentioned here that the boundary between Champaran and Gorakhpur in the United Provinces, which had been determined by a commission in 1887, was re-surveyed. It had been found that the maps of the border villages of the two districts disagreed as to the boundary, and the Local Governments agreed to have the discrepancies reconciled by an Officer from Gorakhpur District and the Settlement Officer, North Bihar. They were much handicapped by the fact that the maps of the previous commission could not be found in the offices either of Bihar and Orissa or of the United Provinces. They met on the boundary during the last week of November 1915 and submitted their joint report in the following March. The Governments of both provinces have since accepted the recommendations made.

Cost of operations in Champaran.

68. The total gross cost of the revisional operations amounts to Rs. 10,73,893 including Rs. 51,750 for reproduction of village maps and Rs. 3,255 for the future maintenance of boundary marks. The total receipts in cash and Court and Process Fees amount to Rs. 2,54,752. The resultant net cost is Rs. 8,19,141 which is recoverable from the landlords and tenants and the cost rate of revision works out at Re. 0-5-10 per acre against Re. 0-8-0 per acre in the original settlement operations. Adding 5 pies to cover the two new items of expenditure, namely, cost of village maps and maintenance of boundary marks, the total cost rate comes to Re. 0-6-3 per acre, which, under Government orders passed since the close of the year, will be realized in the following proportion :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Zamindar's share	0	3	6
Raiyat's share	0	2	9

69. In accordance with the scheme, sanctioned by the Local Government in November 1914, for the preparation of new maps and records for the district of Sambalpur, maps of 453 villages covering an area of 751 square miles and records of 446 villages, containing 412,994 plots were prepared during the year under review. This outturn is considerably in advance of that of the previous year and is due to the experience gained by the Patwaris in the survey work of the previous field season and to the efficient supervision exercised by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Land Records. **Maintenance of Land Records in Sambalpur.**

70. In the districts of Shahabad and Hazaribagh the work of making over the trijunction marks to the custody of dafadars and chaukidars was completed during the year, while it is still in progress in the districts of Balasore and Puri. **Maintenance of Boundary Marks.**

The re-erection of the Special Ganges Diara reference pillars in district Saran, which had been washed away in the previous year, was completed. In Patna district also a few of the marks were found to have been washed away, and arrangements have been made for their re-erection at safer positions in the coming field season.

Government Estates.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1915-1916.]

71. The number of estates under direct management during the year, including four estates in Muzaffarpur recently purchased by Government, and 62 estates managed by Government for private individuals, was 293 against 281 in 1914-15, with a current demand of Rs. 18,13,512 against Rs. 17,81,617. The cost of management showed a further satisfactory fall from Rs. 1,44,077 to Rs. 1,41,711, the percentage on current demand being 7·83, as against 8·8. **Number and Management of Government Estates.**

72. The total expenditure on miscellaneous and sanitary improvements was Rs. 1,13,071 as against Rs. 1,32,709 in the preceding year. Special contributions of Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 200 were made towards the construction of grain *golas* at Banki and Atabira in the districts of Cuttack and Sambalpur, respectively. **Improvements.**

A special grant of Rs. 25,068 was made to Angul, made up of Rs. 22,800 from hide license fees and Rs. 2,268 from the grant to local bodies for petty improvements. The amount was partly spent, as in the preceding year, on various works of improvement to provide labour for destitute persons.

73. The expenditure on education in Government Estates was Rs. 20,929 as against Rs. 20,797 in the previous year. The whole amount was utilized in all districts except the Santal Parganas, Cuttack and Puri where small savings were effected. The variations in the numbers of schools and pupils were generally trivial, and call for no special comment. **Education.**

74. The expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 1,29,282 while the 1½ per cent. grant made for roads and communications in Government Estates was Rs. 39,438. **Roads and Communications.**

In Angul in addition to the Government Estates' grant a sum of Rs. 4,739 was expended in the Khondmals Subdivision out of the Road fund.

75. In most parts of the province the condition of raiyats in the Government Estates was on the whole satisfactory. In the Tirhut Division a certain amount of damage was done to the rice crops by floods, but as the *rabi* crop was a good one, the raiyats recovered their normal position. In the Orissa Division the price of food-grains ruled high in Angul as the outturn of both the paddy and the *rabi* crops, which had yielded poor harvests in 1914-15, was again below the average. Agricultural loans were freely given, works of improvement taken in hand to provide labour where necessary, and gratuitous relief centres opened. The condition of the tenantry in the Chota Nagpur Division was satisfactory except in the districts of Hazaribagh and Singhbhum. As a result of the war, the mica business in the Kodarma Estate in Hazaribagh was dull, and this affected the earnings of the raiyats, most of whom are employed in this industry, while in Singhbhum **Condition of raiyats.**

scarcity was formally declared in the Kolhan Estate. Several test works had to be opened and gratuitous relief given. The distress was severest from August to October and continued up to the close of the year under report. A large number of raiyats emigrated temporarily to work in Assam or in mines with the idea of returning again during the cultivating season. The village of Harinmar in the Binda Diara Government Estate in Monghyr was burnt to the ground. In Orissa there were sporadic cases of cholera while in Cuttack and Puri epidemics of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest carried away a large number of cattle.

Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates.

[Report on the Administration of Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates for the year 1915-1916.]

Number of Estates under management.

76. One new estate was taken under management during the year and seven were released. The estates under management at the close of the year numbered 154, of which 100 were managed under the provisions of the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, 1876.

Payment of Government demands.

77. The percentage of the payment of revenue and cesses due to Government was the same as in the preceding year, viz., 99 per cent. of the total demand.

Rent and cesses due to superior landlords.

78. The percentage of the total payment under this head was only 59·3 against 70·4 in the preceding year. The greater portion of the balance unpaid was due from estates in the Chota Nagpur Division, where in several estates payments were refused or withheld on account of disputes, while a few others were unable to pay in full for want of funds.

Collection of rent and cesses due to estates.

79. The total collections fell to 90·1 per cent. of the current demand as compared with 94·4 per cent. realized during 1914-15, the standard of 100 per cent. being reached only in the Orissa Division.

Balances of rent and cesses due to estates.

80. The outstanding balances of rent and cesses due to all estates amounted to Rs. 48,90,696 or 83·2 per cent. on the current demand, as compared with 76·1 per cent. in the preceding year. Damage to crops by floods is reported to have been responsible for poor collections in parts of the Tirhut and Bhagalpur Divisions, and in several estates payments appear to have been withheld deliberately by the tenants pending the decision of commutation and other cases, or in anticipation of the early release of the estate.

Management charges.

81. The cost of management rose from 9·8 to 10·8 per cent. of the current demand, the standard of 10 per cent. being exceeded in three out of the five divisions. In some estates it is impossible to reduce the cost of management without sacrificing efficiency.

Improvements.

82. The amount spent on works of improvement was Rs. 2,85,418 and that on schools, dispensaries and charities was Rs. 2,74,994. Thus the total amount spent under this head was Rs. 5,60,412 as against Rs. 4,07,545 in the previous year.

Education of Wards.

83. The education of wards continued to receive due attention and the results attained are on the whole satisfactory. The Board of Revenue has been asked to consider the possibility of training minors under the Court of Wards in Survey and Settlement work.

Revenue and Rent-paying Cesses.

[Land Revenue Administration Report, 1915-1916.]

Tenancy Act.

84. The various Tenancy Acts in force in the province continued to work smoothly. The tenants appear to appreciate the provisions of section 31 of the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913, especially in regard to the protection of occupancy raiyats from eviction, the registration of the transfer of occupancy holding by private sale, the deposit of rent in court, and the recovery of arrears of produce-rent. Commutation of rent is an important feature in the Bihar districts, and the subject is receiving the careful attention of the Local Government. In the district of Gaya, the system of commutation still proved a fruitful

source of ill-feeling between landlords and tenants. An exceedingly large number of commutation cases filed in the course of the survey and settlement proceedings of the district will be disposed of by the Collectorate Staff after completion of the operations.

85. Cases of failure to grant proper receipts for rent were reported from all the districts in the province, except Purnea. Manuscript receipts are still mostly used in the Tirhut Division. Fines for failure to grant proper rent-receipts were imposed in 231 cases in the Gaya district. There has been a general fall in the total number of money orders issued for the payment of rent and the amount covered by them. The percentage of money orders issued also fell from 25·1 to 22·6. **Payment of rent.**

86. Rent-suits are tried by revenue courts in the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions only. There was a general decrease in the number of suits of all kinds instituted during the year. The heavy institution of suits by the Midnapore Zamindari Company and the Raja of Porahat is said to have swelled the number of such suits instituted in the district of Singhbhum in the Chota Nagpur Division. **Rent-suits in Orissa and Chota Nagpur.**

87. Relations between landlords and tenants were on the whole satisfactory. Illegal cesses, however, still continue to be levied in different parts of the province, but resistance to the demands is increasing on the part of the tenantry as knowledge of the provisions of the tenancy laws spreads among them, as a result of the survey and settlement operations. **Relations between landlords and tenants.**

In the Patna Division, applications for commutation of produce-rents were numerous, and hotly contested. Another feature was the withholding by the landlords of receipts for payment of produce-rent and the institution of false suits for arrears of rent, as soon as the tenants applied for commutation.

In Champaran, the question of enhancement of rents in consideration of the abrogation of the duty to grow indigo led to some friction.

In Monghyr, the relations of several large landlords in the district with their tenants are strained, and in parts of Purnea there has been some tendency on the part of the landlords to dispossess the tenants of their lands with a view to enhancing rents and realizing *abwab*.

In the Chota Nagpur Division, jungle rights in the Ranchi district continue to be the chief point of dispute. In Palamau, the strained relations brought about by the settlement operations are now the subject of special inquiry.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

Legislative Authority.

[Also refer for this to Bihar and Orissa Administration Report, 1911-12, Chapter III, pages 144—148.]

Legislative Council.

88. In addition to the four changes recorded in the report for the preceding two years, one further change occurred in the year under report in the body of the non-official Members of the Legislative Council; the Hon'ble Babu Nimai Charan Mitra was elected by the District Boards of the Orissa Division to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Rai Bahadur Gokulanand Chaudhuri.

The term of office of the Additional Members of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council, as first constituted, was due to expire between December, 1915, and January, 1916, but, in order to obviate the inconvenience which would have been caused had the new elections commenced in December and the delay which would have taken place in the appointment of a Finance Committee, the first meeting of which is held in that month, as well as to provide the new Members with time to study the rules of procedure and generally to qualify themselves for their duties, it was considered desirable that they should assume their office some months before they would be called upon to perform their duties. The term of office of all the Additional Members was accordingly, by a notification which issued on the 9th October 1915, extended to the 15th April, 1916.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION.

Bills introduced and passed.

89. Six meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year. Five Bills were introduced and passed, namely :—

(1) The Patna Administration Bill;

(2) The Bihar and Orissa Excise Bill;

(3) The Bihar and Orissa Cess (Amendment) Bill;

(4) The Bihar and Orissa Medical Bill; and

(5) The Bihar and Orissa Decentralization Bill.

The Patna Administration Act, 1915.

90. The Patna Administration Act, 1915, was designed to provide machinery whereby areas which form the headquarters of the Local Government may be properly and effectively administered.

The Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, 1915.

91. By the Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, 1915, the Bengal Excise Act, 1909, was re-enacted with various amendments suggested by experience, while the law relating to the import, export, transport, manufacture, possession and sale of cocaine was made more stringent.

The Bihar and Orissa Cess (Amendment) Act, 1916.

92. The Bihar and Orissa Cess (Amendment) Act, 1916, was designed to provide for the large number of changes in the Bengal Cess Act, 1880, necessitated by the allocation to District Boards of the Public Works Cess and the amalgamation of that cess with the road cess under the name of the "local cess", and also for certain other amendments which experience had shown to be necessary.

The Bihar and Orissa Medical Act, 1916.

93. The Bihar and Orissa Medical Act, 1916, had for its object the protection of the public from imperfectly qualified medical practitioners by giving them facilities for ascertaining whether any particular medical practitioner possesses recognized qualifications.

94. The object of the Bihar and Orissa Decentralization Act, 1916, was to give effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Decentralization for the delegation to lower authority of powers and duties vested by law in higher authority. **The Bihar and Orissa Decentralization Act, 1916.**

Police.

[The Report on the administration of the Police Department for the year 1915.—Statistics of British India, Part VI.—Administrative and Judicial.]

95. There was no change in the strength of the Superior Police cadre during 1915, but shortly after the close of the year the sanction of the Secretary of State was accorded to the creation of an additional appointment of Superintendent of Police as Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways. For the more effectual repression of crime in the colliery area an additional appointment in the 5th grade of Superintendents of Police was sanctioned temporarily for the district of Manbhum with headquarters at Dhanbad. **Force.**

In the subordinate ranks an increase of 62 officers and men was sanctioned in connection with the reorganization of the Criminal Investigation Department, the creation of a separate force for the Lieutenant-Governor's guard, the strengthening of the Finger Print Bureau, the appointment of a special detective staff on Railways and the Court Staff required for the newly-opened Simdega Subdivision. The force actually employed at the close of the year was short of the full strength by 337. The percentage of literacy among the men remained unchanged. A new school for the training of certain classes of recruits from Orissa and Chota Nagpur was established at Cuttack, and 236 recruits were received for training there. The general health of the force showed a slight improvement, the percentage of admissions to hospitals decreasing from 32 to 30. Expenditure on the construction and repairs of departmental buildings amounted to Rs. 1,76,246 as compared with Rs. 2,08,699 in the previous year. The grant for major works, including the cost of works in progress, was Rs. 2,46,400. The condition of police buildings in many districts is still indifferent; and it is a matter for regret that their improvement, which in any case could only have been effected gradually, has been further retarded by the prevailing financial stringency.

The proposals of the Local Government for the improvement of the pay of constables are now awaiting the orders of the Secretary of State.

The conduct and discipline of the Military Police Companies were satisfactory.

96. A force of additional police consisting of one Sub-Inspector, one Head-Constable and ten constables was employed for a period of six months with effect from the 19th February 1915, in maintaining order in certain disturbed villages in the district of Champaran. **Additional Police.**

97. The discipline of the police continued to be good, and the percentage of officers and men rewarded showed a slight increase. The number of judicial punishments rose from 101 to 139 while departmental punishments fell from 3,518 to 3,456. One hundred and ten criminal charges were instituted against the police by private persons, of which sixty-one were found false, eleven ended in acquittal, eighteen were dismissed under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, eleven were entered as true, one was compromised and three were pending disposal at the end of the year. The remaining five cases ended in conviction. Although one Inspector, forty-six Sub-Inspectors, twenty-four Head-Constables, ninety-three constables and six daffadars and chaukidars were implicated in these charges, only two Head-Constables and four constables were convicted. Departmental action was taken in fourteen cases. In Cuttack a Sub-Inspector and two constables were dismissed from the force on a charge of assault and wrongful confinement of a person suspected of being concerned in a burglary case. In Puri a Sub-Inspector and a Head-Constable, who were prosecuted on charges of wrongful confinement and bribery, were acquitted on appeal, but were afterwards punished departmentally. In Palamau a Head-Constable and a constable were dismissed for taking a bribe. In Ranchi, a Writer Head-Constable was dismissed on a charge of extortion. Prosecutions were instituted against the complainants in seventeen of the cases found to be false; of these seven ended in conviction, **Discipline.**

seven in acquittal and three remained pending at the close of the year. In two cases brought against Police officers the accused were awarded compensation under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code.

Rural Police.

98. The percentage of chaukidars rewarded fell from 15 to 11. The fall is most noticeable in the districts of Muzaffarpur, Sambalpur, and the Santal Parganas, where the number of rewards appears to be very inadequate. The balances of the Reward Fund continue to be high in most districts, particularly in Purnea, Darbhanga and Shahabad. In Muzaffarpur, on the other hand, the fund was overdrawn owing to a misapprehension in the District Magistrate's office. 199 chaukidars were judicially punished while 1,056 were dismissed. The working of the President system generally is again discouraging. Rules under section 37 of the Chota Nagpur Rural Police Act (Act I of 1914) were issued during the year.

Political Crime.

99. The most noteworthy event of the year was the rounding-up near Balasore of a party of five Bengali revolutionaries. The manner in which they were captured reflects great credit on the District Magistrate, Mr. R. G. Kilby, C.I.E., and the Police officers concerned, and a most satisfactory feature of the case was the valuable assistance given by the villagers, whose plucky conduct has been suitably rewarded. The anarchists were armed with Mauser pistols and offered a desperate resistance to their arrest. One was killed on the spot, another was mortally wounded and died later in hospital, and a third received a bullet wound in the chest. The remaining two then surrendered. Of the five Mauser pistols found in their possession, three belonged to a consignment stolen from Messrs. Rodda & Co. of Calcutta in the previous year. The three survivors were tried by a special tribunal of Commissioners appointed under the Defence of India Act, 1915, with the result that the wounded man was sentenced to transportation for life, and the remaining two were executed. Action was taken in various cases under the Defence of India Act and other special laws against ten men, of whom eight were interned.

Professional Crime.

100. Dacoity on the Purnea-Nepal border was kept well under control. There was, however, a marked increase in cases reported from the Hazaribagh and Manbhum districts. In the former district, with the aid of the Criminal Investigation Department, the local police succeeded in breaking up the two gangs responsible. In Manbhum the cause of the outbreak was mainly failure of crops and high prices, and the property looted was for the most part grain. As a result of the inquiries made, seven gangs of Bhumijes have been notified under the Criminal Tribes Act. A formidable gang of burglars, whose theatre of operations was in the districts of Patna and Gaya, were kept under strict surveillance, and are being dealt with under section 110, Code of Criminal Procedure. Valuable assistance was afforded by the Finger Print Department, of which more extensive use was made during the year. The number of searches made increased by 1,268, and the total number of slips on record at the end of the year was 79,241. In 837 cases the persons were traced as old offenders. A course of training in footprints was given to a Sub-Inspector at Chikalda in the Central Provinces and footprints were examined in three cases, in one of which the identity of the person concerned was established.

Criminal Tribes.

101. Systematic operations are being undertaken under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1911, against gangs of organized criminals. Six gangs were declared criminal tribes during the year under report and seven others since its close. The condition of the Dom settlements in Saran and Champaran which are under the management of the Salvation Army has been engaging the careful consideration of the Local Government. The Saran Doms are scattered over a number of small agricultural settlements which it is impossible for the Army efficiently to supervise, and it has now been decided, after a full discussion with Commissioner Booth-Tucker, to revert to the system of police control which had in this area given fairly satisfactory results in the past. In Champaran, where the Doms are almost entirely concentrated in two settlements, the prospects are more hopeful, and it is anticipated that with the provision of the necessary buildings and the passing of more stringent regulations, the work of the Salvation Army will meet with a large measure of success.

102. The statistics of ordinary crime reflect the agricultural conditions of the year. The rainfall in September and October, 1914, was defective all over the province and caused poor crops generally, while the 1915 rainfall, though generally good, failed in parts of Chota Nagpur, where also the temporary cessation of the mica-mining industry and the slackening of work in the coal mines threw many labourers out of employment. Dacoities, as already noticed, increased from 93 to 146, over half the total number being accounted for by Manbhum and Hazaribagh, where the scarcity was most felt. Similarly the number of burglaries rose by 3,700 to 20,795, of cattle thefts by 360 to 1,419, and of ordinary theft by 2,650 to 17,491. On the other hand, offences against the State and the person showed a decrease, except in the case of murders. **Ordinary Crime.**

103. The number of cases declared false was lower than in the previous year, but the number of prosecutions under sections 182 and 211 of the Indian Penal Code increased by 42. The percentage of cases in which compensation under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, was awarded varied in a remarkable degree in different districts, and it seems impossible to believe that if compensation was properly awarded in 21 per cent. of the false cases in Muzaffarpur, there were no cases in Balasore or Angul in which it should have been awarded. The Commissioners of Divisions were asked towards the close of 1915 to inquire carefully into the use made of this section during their inspection of district offices. **False Cases.**

104. Cases in which security was demanded under sections 109 and 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code increased in number. There was a rise in the proportion of cases tried locally. **Security Cases.**

105. The number of charge sheets rose from 11,280 to 12,994, but the percentage of cases disposed of at the first three hearings was 70 against 66. The percentage of cases remanded more than six times was noticeably lower than last year, viz., 3·4 against 4 ; but the figures were unsatisfactory for certain districts, particularly Patna (10·8), Monghyr (8·1), Hazaribagh (7·5), and Gaya (7·1). **Remands.**

Mortality caused by wild animals and snakes.

[Report on above and measures taken during 1915 for their destruction.—Statistics of British India, Part V—Area, Population and Public Health.]

106. The total mortality was 684 against 547 in 1914. The number of deaths caused by tigers and wolves rose from 289 and 54 to 376 and 90 respectively. The districts of Angul, Hazaribagh and Singhbhum were responsible for 232 out of the total number of deaths caused by tigers. **Wild animals.**

107. Deaths by snakebite numbered 6,795 against 5,968 in 1914. The increase is shared more or less by all the divisions except Orissa. **Snakes.**

108. The increase, from 16,105 to 16,382, in the number of cattle killed by wild animals was due to greater mortality from this cause in the Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur Divisions. **Cattle killed by wild animals.**

109. The number of wild animals killed fell from 2,760 to 1,351. The rewards paid for the destruction of wild animals and snakes amounted to Rs. 9,380 against Rs. 15,494 in 1914. **Destruction of wild animals.**

Criminal Justice.

110. In addition to the permanent staff of twelve Sessions Judges, Additional Sessions Judges were appointed to act in Patna and Manbhum-Sambalpur for short periods and in Shahabad throughout the year. Of the Subordinate Judges vested with the powers of Assistant Sessions Judge two—at Gaya and Shahabad—were employed throughout the year, and one for various periods at Muzaffarpur. **Judicial Staff.**

111. Including 20 District Magistrates there were 267 Stipendiary Magistrates, of whom 170 exercised first class, 63 second class and 34 third class powers. **Magisterial Staff.**

The Honorary Magistrates numbered 320 and 62 benches were constituted.

Special Magistrates were appointed in two instances.

Number of offences reported.

112. The total number of cases instituted before the courts, whether directly or through the police, was 98,229 or 5,824 less than in the previous year. Of these 65,426 were under the Penal Code, and 32,803 under special and local laws. The largest decrease occurred in Bhagalpur (2,527) and the largest increase in Monghyr (523).

True cases.

113. Of these cases 77,528 were reported true, and 60,312 were brought to trial, as against 80,888 and 63,891 in the previous year.

False cases.

114. The number of cases which were found to be false, or were withdrawn, without trial, was 20,534 or 20·9 per cent. of the total number reported as against 22·6 per cent. in 1914.

18,202 complaints, or 2,577 less than in the previous year, were dismissed.

Cases brought to trial.

115. Including those pending at the beginning of the year the cases dealt with by the courts amounted to 61,982, of which 59,840 were disposed of and 1,762 were pending at the close of the year.

RESULTS OF TRIALS AND PROCEEDINGS IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

Disposals.

116. The figures of disposals are as follows:—

Courts.	Tried Regularly.	Tried Summarily.
1	2	3
District Magistrates	29	25
Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates	40,625	8,012
Honorary Magistrates	5,797	347
Benches of Magistrates	3,158	1,770
Special Magistrates	19	...
Total ...	49,628	10,154
	59,782	

In addition to this number District and Subdivisional Magistrates disposed of 58 cases referred to them under sections 347 and 349 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Of the full total of 59,840, 721 cases were committed for final disposal to the Sessions.

Results of trials.

117. In the 59,119 cases finally disposed of by Magistrates 94,132 persons were accused, and 48,291, or 51·3 per cent. were convicted and 45,841 or 48·7 per cent. were discharged. In the previous year the number of accused was 97,138 and the percentage of conviction only 49·2.

The persons under trial in the various courts were dealt with as follows :—

—	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Percentage of convictions.
1	2	3	4
Benches of Magistrates	2,209	4,308	66·1
Honorary Magistrates	4,546	4,935	52·0
Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates ...	39,001	40,664	41·0
District Magistrates	81	28	25·7
Special Magistrates	...	33	100·0

The numbers tried summarily were by benches of Magistrates 1,696, by Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates 9,080, by Honorary Magistrates 369 and by District Magistrates 9.

118. The following statement shows the nature of the sentences passed on the persons convicted :— **Nature of sentences.**

	Appellate.	Non-appellate.
On regular trial	27,440	9,697
On summary trial	1,976	9,178

119. The punishments inflicted on the persons convicted may be analysed thus :— **Punishments.**

Imprisonment	Rigorous	11,407
	Simple	542
Fine ...	With imprisonment	1,744
	Without do.	33,686
Whipping ...	Sole punishment	473
	Additional	11

A term of solitary confinement was included in 126 of the sentences of rigorous imprisonment and in the case of 30 youthful offenders a sentence of imprisonment was commuted to detention in a reformatory school. 1,149 persons were called upon to give security for good behaviour and 1,123 of these were sentenced to terms of imprisonment not exceeding one year on failing to comply with the orders. 181 persons were released on probation under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Of persons who had previously been so released proceedings were subsequently taken against 55, of whom 3 were discharged and 52 convicted and punished. 929 persons were required to execute bonds to keep the peace. Of the sentences of imprisonment passed, 2,333 were for terms not exceeding 15 days ; 7,950 for terms not exceeding 6 months ; 2,759 for terms not exceeding 2 years ; and 19 for terms exceeding 2 years. Fines imposed amounted to Rs. 3,22,964 of which sums totalling Rs. 41,344 were paid as compensation to complainants.

120. In addition to criminal trials the following were the more important classes of work dealt with by Magistrates during the year :— **Proceedings under the Criminal Procedure Code.**

There were 568 proceedings under Chapter VIII, Criminal Procedure Code, to prevent a breach of the peace in which 2,576 persons were involved. The number of cases and of persons involved therein was less by 53 and 351 respectively, than in 1914. The number of persons dealt with under this chapter was largest in Saran (330) and Muzaffarpur (317). **(a) Preventive action.**

In 723 cases, 1,438 persons were called upon to shew cause why they should not give security to be of good behaviour and the orders were made absolute against 1,209.

(b) Abatement of nuisances.

121. Proceedings for the abatement of nuisances under Chapter X of the Code were taken in 718 cases as compared with 940 cases in the previous year. The number of cases under Chapter XII of the Code involving questions of the possession of land decided by Magistrates during the year was 797, a decrease of 20 on the figures of 1914.

(c) Compensation.

122. Under section 250 of the Code, 447 complainants were ordered to pay compensation to accused persons, the accusations brought by them having been found to be frivolous or vexatious.

(d) Maintenance.

123. Proceedings for maintenance under Chapter XXXVI of the Code were taken against 431 persons and orders were made absolute against 140.

Witnesses.

124. The total number of witnesses attending Magistrates' Courts was 223,516. The number of those examined was 167,200 as compared with 161,910 in 1914, and of those discharged without examination 56,316 or 25 per cent. of the whole. Including the latter, 175,401 witnesses (or 78·4 per cent. of the total number in attendance) were discharged on the first day; 37,218 (16·6 per cent.) on the second; 8,819 (3·9 per cent.) on the third; and 2,078 (·9 per cent.) after the third day. The districts in which the proportion of witnesses detained for more than three days was largest were Monghyr (3·02) and Patna (2·5). The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses of their attendance rose from Rs. 45,658 in 1914 to Rs. 53,892 in 1915.

COURTS OF SESSIONS.

Commitments and trials.

125. The number of cases committed for trial or referred during the year was 721, and the number disposed of, including pending cases of the previous year, was 693. These figures show an increase of 99 and 76, respectively, on the figures of the preceding year. There were 115 cases pending at the close of the year.

Results of trials.

126. The number of persons under trial before Courts of Sessions during the year was 1,938 or 346 more than in 1914. The cases of 1,602 persons were decided, and 329 remained under trial at the close of the year. Of the 1,602 persons tried 933 or 58·2 per cent. as against 67·8 per cent. in 1914, were convicted and 669 were acquitted or discharged and the cases of 26 persons were referred to the High Court under sections 307 and 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Punishments.

127. The following sentences were passed by the Courts of Sessions during the year :—

Death		18
Transportation	for life	74
	for a term of years	31
Imprisonment	rigorous	703
	simple	13
Fine		72
Whipping		8

In the case of 3 out of 703 persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, the sentences included terms of solitary confinement; 62 of the sentences of fine and 4 of whipping were additional punishments. Besides the above, 64 persons were sentenced to imprisonment on failure to furnish security for good behaviour; and 6 persons who had been convicted of an offence involving a breach of the peace, were required to execute a bond with sureties to keep the peace in addition to their substantive punishment. Of the sentences of imprisonment passed 22 were for periods not exceeding 15 days; 98 for periods

not exceeding 6 months; 235 for periods not exceeding 2 years; 402 for periods not exceeding 7 years; and 23 for periods exceeding 7 years.

The fines imposed aggregated Rs. 11,765 as compared with Rs. 11,070 in the preceding year, and sums amounting to Rs. 996 were paid as compensation to complainants.

128. The number of persons tried by Jury during the year was 181 as compared with 81 in the previous year. The Sessions Judge approved of the verdict of the Jury in respect of 149 persons and disapproved of it in respect of 32. In the case of six persons the Sessions Judge disagreed with the verdict so completely as to consider it necessary for the ends of justice to make a reference to the High Court under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. **Jury trials.**

129. The number of persons tried with the aid of Assessors during the year under review was 1,301. In the case of 973 persons the Judge concurred with the opinion of both the Assessors; in the case of 131 he differed from the opinion of one; and in the case of 197 he differed from the opinion of both. The corresponding figures for 1914 were 1,087, 703, 129 and 255 respectively. **Trials by Assessors.**

130. The average duration of Sessions trials, from the date of commitment to the date of decision, was 45·2 days as compared with 48·1 days in 1914. The duration of cases was notably high in the districts of Patna (76·1 days), Singhbhum (58·4 days), Cuttack (57 days), Saran (51·3 days) and Balasore (50 days). **Duration of cases.**

The duration of cases increased from 34·5 days to 49·4 days in Hazaribagh, from 42·2 days to 57 days in Cuttack and from 62·7 days to 76·1 days in Patna. On the other hand, there was a welcome decrease in the duration of trials in Palamau, from 49·6 days to 21·5 days; in Bhagalpur, from 60·5 days to 33 days; and in Monghyr from 52·2 days to 32 days.

131. The number of witnesses in attendance before the Courts of Sessions was 10,339; of these 7,527 were examined and 2,812 discharged without examination. In 1914 the corresponding figures were 9,177, 6,554 and 2,623, respectively. **Witnesses.**

Of the total number in attendance 4,914 (47·5 per cent.) were discharged on the first day; 2,685 (25·9 per cent.) on the second day; 1,355 (13·1 per cent.) on the third day; and 1,385 (13·3 per cent.) after the third day.

The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses incurred by them in attending Sessions trials was Rs. 17,287 as compared with Rs. 16,779 in 1914.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

I.—High Court.

132. At the beginning of 1915, 36 appeals were pending before the High Court from sentences or orders of criminal courts and during the year 299 appeals were preferred and 320 decided. The number of appeals preferred and decided were 5 less and 27 more, respectively, than in the preceding year. The pending file of 15 cases shows a decrease of 21. **Appeals.**

133. The appeals of 348 persons were summarily dismissed under section 421 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, while in admitted appeals the sentences on 119 appellants were confirmed, on 43 reduced or altered and on 45 reversed. In the cases of 43 a new trial or further inquiry was ordered. In no case was a sentence enhanced. The percentage of appellants who were entirely unsuccessful was 83·9 as against 75·4 in 1914. **Results of appeals.**

134. There was only one appeal by the Local Government against an order of acquittal as against five in the previous year. The appeal was allowed. **Appeals against acquittals.**

II.—Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court.

135. There were 90 appeals pending before the Courts of Sessions at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,913 appeals were preferred; of these **Sessions Courts.**

1,912 were decided and 89 were pending at the close of the year. The remaining two appeals were transferred to another district for hearing. The number of appeals preferred to Sessions Judges was 25 less than in 1914.

In the appeals decided by Sessions Judges during 1915, 3,523 persons were concerned. The appeals of 1,233 of these or 34·9 per cent. were summarily rejected; 1,176 appellants whose appeals were admitted were altogether unsuccessful; 395 obtained a reduction or alteration of sentence; 638 were acquitted; and in the case of 80 appellants a new trial or further inquiry was ordered.

The proportions of persons whose appeals were wholly unsuccessful, successful in obtaining a modification of the original orders and successful in obtaining their reversal, were 68·3, 11·2 and 18·1 respectively. Of those concerned in admitted appeals only the proportions were 51·3, 17·2 and 27·8 per cent.

Magistrates' Courts.

136. In the courts of Magistrates there were 100 appeals pending at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,833 appeals were preferred; of these 1,739 were decided and 94 were pending at the close of the year. The number preferred was 341 less than in 1914.

The number of persons whose appeals were decided by courts of Magistrates was 3,864. The appeals of 879 were summarily dismissed and the sentences on 1,502 whose appeals were admitted were confirmed. 2,381 appellants or 61·8 per cent. were therefore wholly unsuccessful. Of the remainder 484 appellants or 12·5 per cent. obtained a modification of the sentences passed on them and 945 or 24·4 per cent. were acquitted. In the case of 54 appellants a new trial or further inquiry was ordered.

SUPERINTENDENCE, REFERENCE AND REVISION.

I.—High Court.

References under section 307, Criminal Procedure Code.

137. One reference under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure from the verdict of a Jury was pending in the High Court at the opening of the year and four were made during the year. All the five references were decided during the year.

References under section 374, Criminal Procedure Code.

138. 18 references under section 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for confirmation of the sentence of death were made to the High Court in 1915 and five were pending at the opening of the year. All the 23 references were decided during the year. In the references decided the death sentence on thirteen persons were confirmed and in the case of five the sentence was commuted to transportation for life. The remaining five persons were acquitted.

Revision.

139. During the year 52 cases were reported for the orders of the High Court by Sessions Judges and District Magistrates under sections 432 and 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and two were pending at the opening of the year—of these 49 were decided and five remained pending. The number reported was 16 less than in 1914.

Orders were passed under section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure in 471 cases, a decrease of 82 on the figures of the previous year.

Applications for transfer.

140. No application under section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for transfer of a case from one court or district to another was made during the year.

II.—Courts Subordinate to the High Court.

Sessions Courts.

141. The cases of 2,156 persons were decided on revision by Courts of Sessions during the year. These include the cases both of accused persons who themselves applied for revision of the orders passed on them in the Courts of Magistrates and of accused persons against whom such applications were made by complainants. The number was less than in 1914 by 67. The applications of 1,260 persons were rejected and as regards 321 persons the orders of the lower court were confirmed. Orders passed in the case of 12

persons were reversed. There was no instance of the proceedings being quashed or the order of the lower court being modified. In the cases of 505 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed and the cases of 58 persons were referred to the High Court.

142. The cases of 2,224 accused persons who applied for revision or against whom applications were made by complainants, came before District Magistrates. The number was less by 15 than in 1914. The applications of 788 persons were rejected and in the cases of 734 the original sentence or order was upheld. Sentences or orders affecting 15 persons were modified and those affecting 302 were reversed. In the cases of six persons the proceedings were quashed and in those of 346 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed. The cases of 33 persons were referred to the High Court. **Magistrates' Courts.**

GENERAL.

143. The cases of 22 European British subjects were decided during the year against 20 in the preceding year. Of these 18 were dealt with by Magistrates and four by Courts of Sessions. Of the accused persons 15 were convicted and 7 acquitted. The convictions were in one case for an offence of contempt of the lawful authority of public servant, in five for offences against human body, in three for offences relating to documents and to trade or property marks and in the remaining cases under special and local laws. **Trials of European British subjects.**

144. There was a decrease during 1915 as compared with the previous year in the amount of original and appellate work as also of revisional work disposed of by Magistrates. In the Courts of Sessions there was a considerable increase in Sessions work but a decrease in appellate and revisional work. In the High Court also there was a decrease of appellate and revisional work. **Result of Criminal work.**

145. The total charges and receipts for the year relating to the administration of Criminal Justice were Rs. 14,06,897 and Rs. 6,34,580 respectively. **Receipts and charges.**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN SCHEDULED DISTRICTS.

146. The number of cases brought to trial during the year 1915, in the scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals), was 5,565 against 5,854 in the previous year and the disposals amounted to 5,464 as against 5,724 in the year 1914. Out of the 8,719 persons under trial including those awaiting trial from the previous year 4,069 were acquitted or discharged and 4,368 convicted. Of the cases brought to trial 659 were for criminal force and assault, 948 for theft, 500 for criminal trespass and 1,829 for offences under special and local laws. The punishment of whipping was inflicted in 97 cases against 76 in the previous year. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 510 of whom 140 were wholly or partly successful. **Santal Parganas and Angul.**

Jails.

147. The total accommodation available in all the Jails in the province was sufficient for 11,190 prisoners. Owing chiefly to unfavourable agricultural conditions, the average daily strength of the Jail population rose from 7,007 in 1914 to 7,709 in 1915 and that of convicts from 6,188 to 6,674. The average daily number of sick and the death-rate were 30·1 and 25·0 per mille respectively against 28·8 and 16·9 in the year 1914. The incidence of dysentery, diarrhoea, pneumonia, etc., was higher in 1915 than in the previous year, but on the other hand the number of patients suffering from malaria continued to decline. **General condition of prisoners.**

148. The work done in the Juvenile Jail has been satisfactory. But substantial improvement in the character of a juvenile prisoner can be effected only if he is detained for a considerable period. The minimum limit of age for admission to the Juvenile Jail has been lowered from 16 to 15 years. **Juvenile offenders.**

Subsistence allowance to prisoners on release from jails.

149. An increase was sanctioned in the allotment for doles to indigent convicts on their release from jail; but the scheme for aiding and finding employment for time-expired convicts through the agency of local committees has been abandoned for the present, owing partly to the difficulty of finding suitable persons to undertake the work and partly because the ex-convicts themselves declined to accept assistance which to them appeared to involve surveillance.

Subordinate establishment.

150. The scheme for the reorganization of the Jailer and Warder establishments was examined by the Local Government with a view to addressing the Government of India. Proposals for improving the pay and prospects of the subordinate medical staff of the Jail Department were submitted to the Government of India after the close of the year.

Administration.

151. During the year under report the provisions of sections 9, 10, 32, 42, 43, 44 and 52 of the Prisons Act (IX of 1894) were extended to the sub-jails in the province.

Jail Press.

152. The Jail Press at Gaya was in working order throughout the year and the supply of forms by the Government of Bengal ceased with effect from April 1915. A Forms Press building, separate forms store, and quarters for the Deputy Superintendent of the Press were constructed by the Public Works Department; the Jail Press was provided with an electric installation: and land was acquired for quarters for the Press employés.

Civil Justice.

Judicial Staff.

153. The permanent civil judicial staff employed in the province during the year under report consisted of 12 District and Sessions Judges, 19 Subordinate Judges and 68 Munsifs. Three executive officers exercised the powers of a subordinate judge or Small Cause Court Judge and seven the powers of a munsif. In addition to the permanent staff, the following temporary appointments were sanctioned during the year:—

Temporary Additional District Judges were employed in Shahabad throughout the year, in Manbhum-Sambalpur from the 1st January till the 8th June, and in Patna for several short periods amounting to about seven months in all.

Temporary Additional Subordinate Judges were employed at Shahabad, Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Gaya throughout the year, exclusive of the Civil Court vacation; and at Hazaribagh and Cuttack from the 1st January and 12th May respectively till the vacation.

Temporary Additional Munsifs were employed in Purnea and at Buxar in the district of Shahabad from the beginning of the year till the 11th and 25th February respectively, and at Sadr and in Aurangabad in the district of Gaya from the 29th and 20th June, respectively, till the end of the year, exclusive of the vacation.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

Original suits instituted.

154. The number of original suits instituted in the province again declined, the total being 163,529, or 2,026 less than the figure of the previous year. The most marked decreases occurred in Cuttack (3,028), Darbhanga (1,672) and Bhagalpur (1,217) while the greatest increase is reported from Muzaffarpur (1,334). Of the total number 50,769 were suits for money or movables, 93,289 rent suits and 19,471 title and other suits. The value of the suits instituted amounted to Rs. 6,14,73,550.

Local distribution.

155. Six Judgeships showed a decrease in the number of suits instituted and six an increase. The number was highest in Purnea with 21,463 suits. In Darbhanga, Cuttack, Muzaffarpur, Saran, Shahabad, Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Patna the institution ranged between 11,000 and 20,000, and in Manbhum-Sambalpur and Gaya between 6,000 and 8,000; while in Chota Nagpur the number was only 4,166.

Cuttack returned the largest number both of money and title suits, while Muzaffarpur heads the list in respect of rent suits, the numbers being 15,905, 3,438 and 14,867 respectively.

156. The following table shows that as usual most of the suits instituted were for trifling sums :— **Nature of suits instituted.**

—		Suits for money and movables.	Suits under the rent law.	Title and other suits.
1		2	3	4
	Rs.			
Not exceeding	10	2,952	26,728	931
	50	21,860	41,528	3,952
	100	11,047	12,827	3,170
	500	12,760	10,825	7,257
Exceeding Rs. 500 or value not stated ...		2,150	1,381	4,161
Total		50,769	93,289	19,471

Of the suits under the rent law 99·1 per cent. were for realization of rent. Of the suits classified as title suits, 30·2 per cent. were mortgage suits, 56 for immovable property and 4·68 for specific relief.

157. The total number of suits for disposal, including new institutions, cases pending at the beginning of the year and cases revived or received on remand or review during the year, was 245,481, or 11,704 less than in the previous year. Disposals numbered 157,737 only, against 178,059 in 1914. **Number of suits disposed of.**

The decrease was spread over all the Judgeships, except Patna, Gaya and Manbhum-Sambalpur where there was a slight increase, and was most marked in Shahabad (6,289), Muzaffarpur (3,840) and Saran (3,746).

Of the total number of suits decided 148,940 were disposed of by Munsifs, 8,625 by Subordinate Judges, 92 by Small Cause Court Judges and 80 by District and Additional District Judges. With the exception of the Courts of Small Causes the disposals fell in all courts as compared with the previous year.

158. In the suits disposed of during the year, plaintiffs were unsuccessful in 32,531 cases or 20·6 per cent. of which 22,425 were dismissed for default; and successful in 72,255 or 45·8 per cent.; while 31,353 cases or 19·8 per cent. were compromised. **Results of suits.**

Of the 26,948 suits decided after contest 21,598 or 80·1 per cent. resulted in favour of the plaintiffs.

159. The number of suits decided by Munsifs shows a decrease of 20,721. The average number of suits disposed of by each Munsif employed throughout the year was 2,158 against 2,356 in 1914. The Small Cause Court procedure was adopted in a little less than one-fifth of the total number of cases disposed of by Munsifs. **Suits decided by Munsifs.**

The number of contested suits disposed of by Munsifs in 1915 was 24,950 or 16·7 per cent. of the total, as against 16·1 per cent. in 1914. In suits disposed of under the ordinary procedure the percentage of those contested was 18 and in suits under Small Cause Court procedure, 11·4.

The figures are :—

Under ordinary procedure.		Under Small Cause Court procedure.		Total.
Contested.	Uncontested.	Contested.	Uncontested.	
21,536	97,676	3,414	26,314	148,940

Suits decided by Subordinate Judges.

160. The number of original suits disposed of by Subordinate Judges was 8,625, or 587 less than in the previous year. The number of suits decided under the ordinary procedure was 4,094 and under the Small Cause Court procedure 4,531; of these 1,682 or 41 per cent. and 840 or 18·5 per cent. respectively were contested. The percentage of suits disposed of on contest under the ordinary procedure shows an increase and under the Small Cause Court procedure a decrease as compared with the figures for 1914.

Disposal by Small Cause Courts.

161. The provincial Small Cause Courts disposed of 92 original suits of which 10 were contested. The figures for the previous year are 86 and 10 respectively.

Average duration of suits.

162. The average duration of suits (contested and uncontested) decided during the past year by the several grades of courts was as follows :—

		District Judges.	Subordinate Judges.	Munsifs.	Small Cause Court Judges.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Under ordinary procedure	Contested ...	328	427·3	244·3	...
	Uncontested	264·9	283·5	134·4	...
Under Small Cause Court procedure.	Contested ...	...	85·9	47	74
	Uncontested	...	53·3	42·6	32

The results show a general increase in the duration of suits decided by Subordinate Judges under the ordinary procedure. There was however a satisfactory decrease in the duration of such suits decided by District Judges. There was also a slight improvement in the duration of suits tried under the Small Cause Court procedure by Munsifs and Subordinate Judges.

Pending suits.

163. The number of suits pending at the close of the year increased from 78,126 to 87,744, of which 2,352 or 10 more than in the previous year had been pending for more than a year. There were 937 suits pending for more than a year in the Courts of Munsifs and 1,415 in the Courts of District and Subordinate Judges. The number of such suits was largest in Muzaffarpur (379), Shahabad (338) and Monghyr (330).

Execution Proceedings.

164. There were 31,568 applications for execution of decrees pending from the previous year and 95,833 applications were made during the year. Full satisfaction was obtained in 49,962 and partial satisfaction in 11,539 cases. In 39,509 cases the proceedings were returned as infructuous and 25,392 remained pending at the close of the year. The total amount realized in courts other than Small Cause Courts was Rs. 97,77,703.

The coercive measures employed were imprisonment of judgment-debtors in 153 cases, arrest followed by release in 588 cases, sale of movable and immovable property in 1,305 and 20,027 cases respectively and attachment of property followed by its release in 25,225 cases. Possession of immovable property was given in 2,342 cases.

165. 20,827 cases of a judicial nature other than suits and execution proceedings were instituted. 21,724 were disposed of and 4,790 were left pending. **Miscellaneous cases.**

The number of miscellaneous cases of a non-judicial nature instituted and disposed of was 3,916 and 4,037 respectively.

Appellate Jurisdiction.

I.—APPEALS IN THE HIGH COURT.

166. The number of first and second appeals from the decrees and orders of the superior civil courts in Bihar and Orissa which came before the High Court and which were decided during the past year was as follows :— **Appeals from Subordinate Courts.**

—	Pending at the close of 1914.	Preferred.	Decided.	Pending at the end of 1915.
1	2	3	4	5
First Appeals—				
From decrees	704	225	339	590
From orders	137	177	112	202
Second Appeals—				
From decrees	1,906	937	1,236	1,607
From orders	99	65	118	46
Total ...	2,846	1,404	1,805	2,445

The number of first and second appeals pending at the close of the year was less by 49 and 352 respectively than at the close of 1914.

167. Of the 339 appeals from original decrees decided during the year 69 were dismissed for default, withdrawn or compromised. In the cases decided after contest 222 decrees of the lower courts were confirmed, three reversed, 37 modified and eight remanded. **Results of appeals.**

Of the 828 appeals from appellate decrees of District Judges, 324 were summarily rejected, 13 were compromised and 30 were dismissed for default; while of the remainder 368 decrees were confirmed, one reversed, 33 modified and 59 remanded.

Of the 408 appeals from appellate decrees of Subordinate Judges 159 were summarily rejected, six compromised, two withdrawn and 22 were dismissed for default; while of the remainder 184 decrees were confirmed, four modified, and 31 remanded.

Of the 230 appeals from orders decided 71 were uncontested and 159 were decided after trial. Of the latter 127 orders were confirmed, 14 reversed, four varied and 14 remanded.

Appellants were entirely unsuccessful in 1,540 cases or 85·3 per cent. of appeals of all classes.

II.—APPELLATE COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

168. There were 7,595 appeals instituted in 1915 of which 3,383 were in rent suits, 3,440 in title suits and 772 in suits for money or movables. The total was 119 more than in 1914. **Appeals instituted.**

The number of appeals instituted in 1915 was smaller than in the previous year in seven Judgeships and larger in five. The decrease was largest in Shahabad (437). The largest increase (442) occurred in Gaya.

Appeals disposed of.

169. The number of appeals disposed of was 8,296. Of these 5,398 were decided by District and Additional District Judges and 2,898 by Subordinate Judges. These figures show a decrease of 63 and an increase of 413 respectively on the figures of the previous year. The number decided after contest (7,124) was more by 457 than in 1914.

The increase in disposals was largest in Cuttack (522) and the largest decrease occurred in Patna (317).

Appeals pending.

170. There were 5,256 appeals pending at the close of the year or 480 less than at the end of 1914. Of these 270 were pending for more than one year as compared with 1,026 in 1914.

Results of appeals.

171. The result of the decisions of the lower courts of the appeals decided during the year was as follows :—

In 4,345 cases or 52·3 per cent. of the whole, the judgment of the lower court was affirmed; in 1,335 cases or 16 per cent. it was modified; and in 1,333 or 16 per cent. it was reversed. The results are more favourable to the lower courts than in the preceding year, 413 appeals were remanded and 870 were either not prosecuted or dismissed for default.

Miscellaneous appeals.

172. During the year 1,515 miscellaneous appeals were instituted, 1,403 were disposed of and 511 remained at the close of the year.

Receipts and charges.

173. The receipts of the civil courts for the year under review amounted to Rs. 35,59,658, a decrease of Rs. 1,35,813 on those of the previous year and the charges to Rs. 14,72,807, an increase of 64,449 on those of 1914. The surplus of receipts over charges amounted to Rs. 20,86,851.

CIVIL JUSTICE IN SCHEDULED DISTRICTS.

Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals).

174. The total number of suits instituted during the year in the civil courts in the scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals) was 13,086 against 13,213 in the previous year. Of these 6,990 were suits for money and movable property, 5,021 rent suits and 1,105 title and other suits. Rent and money suits increased by 5·2 per cent. and 0·3 per cent. respectively, while title suits decreased by 21·5 per cent. The number of cases disposed of amounted to 13,400 leaving 2,236 pending at the close of the year. There were 10,341 applications for execution of decrees of which 1,932 remained pending at the close of the year. 606 appeals from decrees were filed and 544 were disposed of. Out of 113 miscellaneous appeals, 100 were disposed of.

Registration.

[Statistical returns showing the operations under the Registration Act in Bihar and Orissa during 1915.—Statistics of British India, Part II.—Commercial, Part VI, —Administrative and Judicial.]

Offices.

175. During the year a new Sub-Registry Office at Forbesganj was opened in the Araria Subdivision of the district of Purnea as an experimental measure. The new office which commenced work on the 1st January 1915 had jurisdiction over thana Forbesganj, which hitherto had been under the Araria Sub-Registry Office. The office at Patamundai in the district of Cuttack, which had been opened as an experimental measure in 1913, was made permanent with effect from the 15th May 1915. The experimental joint Sub-Registry Office at Jale in Darbhanga was removed to Kamtaul as a more convenient centre.

Statistics.

176. The registrations during the year numbered 535,650 and the income of the Department amounted to Rs. 6,98,880. These are record figures in both cases and exceed those for 1909, the previous highest figures (501,654 registrations and Rs. 6,42,227 receipts), by 6·7 and 8·8 per cent., respectively.

177. There has been an increase in the number of registrations in almost every district of the province, the high prices of food-grains being an important factor in bringing about this result. **Registration in the various Divisions.**

178. In Patna Division the number rose by 22·6 per cent. in Gaya, by 16 per cent. in Patna and by 14·6 per cent. in Shahabad. This is said to be due in Gaya largely to the completion of the Survey operations, and in Shahabad to the continued registrations of documents recording the commutation of produce-rents into cash-rents. **Patna Division.**

179. Of the Tirhut Districts, Saran showed an increase amounting to 30·8 per cent., Muzaffarpur 11·8 per cent., and Darbhanga 12·8 per cent. For this result the partial failure of the harvest owing to the floods of 1915 was largely responsible, though in Saran the approach of Settlement operations was an additional factor. There was a decrease in Champaran alone of 27 per cent. This was due to the fact that during the settlement operations of the previous years a great number of agreements had been registered. **Tirhut Division.**

180. In Bhagalpur Division all the districts showed increases varying from 4·6 in Monghyr to 18·3 in the Santal Parganas. **Bhagalpur Division.**

181. In Orissa, the number of registrations rose in Cuttack, Balasore and Puri, but declined in Sambalpur (20 per cent.) and in Angul, where there were only 20 registrations against 22 in the preceding year. The abnormal rise in Balasore (56·3 per cent.) is ascribed to the repeated failure of crops during the last two or three years. **Orissa Division.**

182. Except in Palamau, where there was a decrease of 9 per cent., all the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division showed increases. The increase in Singhbhum (19·9 per cent.) is ascribed to the prevailing scarcity and the high price of all commodities and in Hazaribagh (25·9 per cent.) to the poor rice crop and the necessity of meeting expenses in connection with Settlement operations. **Chota Nagpur Division.**

183. The number of Companies, limited by shares, working at the close of the year under report, was 38, with an aggregate authorized capital of Rs. 52,00,454 and an aggregate paid-up capital of Rs. 13,24,770 against 48 Companies with an aggregate authorized capital of Rs. 56,40,454 and an aggregate paid-up capital of Rs. 9,06,080 with which the year started. The number of Companies limited by guarantee at the close of the year under review was six against five at the close of the year 1914-15. **Working of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913.** **Number of companies.**

Only one new Company, limited by shares, styled the Katihar Loan Office, Limited, with head office at Katihar in Purnea District, was incorporated during the year under report.

The only change in the Companies limited by guarantee was the formation of the South Bihar Gymkhana Club, Limited, with its registered office at Bankipore.

184. One Company, the Chota Nagpur Banking Association, Limited, Hazaribagh, increased its authorized capital during the year from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1,00,000. 17 Companies increased their paid-up capital by amounts aggregating Rs. 4,65,391. No Company reduced its capital during the year. **Capital.**

185. Four Companies, registered outside British India, viz., (1) The Eastern Coal Company, Limited, (2) The Bengal and North-Western Railway Company, Limited, (3) Standard Oil Company of New York and (4) The East Indian Railway Company, Limited, filed during the year the returns which they are required to submit under section 277 of the Act. These with the 19 Companies that submitted their returns during 1914-15, brings up the total of foreign Companies to 23. **Foreign companies.**

186. Three Companies, limited by shares, were removed from the registers and dissolved during the year under report, under the powers vested in the Registrar by section 247 of the Act. Eight other Companies, limited by shares, were voluntarily wound up during the year. The aggregate authorized and paid-up capitals of these eleven companies had been Rs. 5,40,000 and Rs. 51,701, respectively, at the close of the year 1914-15. **Liquidation proceedings.**

In addition to the above, one Company, the Bihar and Orissa Newspapers, Limited, in a meeting held on 31st January 1916, passed an extraordinary resolution to the effect that the Company ceased to carry on business from after that date at their own instance and transferred all their assets and liabilities to a particular creditor. This was apparently a case of voluntary winding up under section 203 (3) of the Act, and the Registrar, Joint Stock Companies, advised the Company to comply with the provisions of sections 206 and 207 of the Act.

The Chota Nagpur Motor Service Company, Limited, Hazaribagh, which had gone into liquidation in the year 1910, completed liquidation proceedings during the year under report.

Liquidator's statement.

187. The High Court has not as yet prescribed the forms of liquidator's statement under section 244 (1) of the Act, or of notice of appointment and as directed by the Local Government, these were accepted in any form which furnished the necessary particulars.

Fees.

188. The fees realized under the Act during the year amounted to Rs. 1,233-10-0 as compared with Rs. 1,364 in the previous year.

Penalties.

189. The penal provisions of the Act were resorted to in respect of only one Company, viz., The People's Economical Development Company, Limited, of Cuttack, of which the Secretary and five Directors of the Company were prosecuted for omission to file balance-sheets and other returns. Four of the five accused were convicted; the Secretary, who appears to have been chiefly responsible, being sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 300, or in default to undergo three months' simple imprisonment.

Several other Companies which delayed in the submission of balance-sheets and other returns, were warned to be more punctual in future.

The provisions of section 144 of the Act, insisting on audit of balance-sheets by authorized auditors only, were not strictly enforced in the case of audits by auditors appointed before the 1st April 1914; but the Companies were warned that similar indulgence will not be allowed in future.

Certificates.

190. Nine provisional restricted certificates for a period of two years each, were granted by the Local Government. Intimation was also received from other Local Governments of the issue of unrestricted certificates numbering altogether twenty-one, entitling the holders to audit the accounts of Companies in this province.

Rules and orders.

191. The only important rules framed during the year were (i) the orders of the Local Government prescribing fees under section 248 (5) of the Act, for the inspection of documents kept by the Registrar; (ii) the orders of the Government of India inserting a proviso to rule 5 of the Indian Companies Rules, 1914, empowering Registrars to exempt any Companies from the operation of the rule requiring vernacular documents to be accompanied by English translations, and (iii) Local Government order making the above concession conditional on the observance of a rule that amounts or quantities shown in figures must be repeated in words.

Working of Act XXI of 1860.

192. No new Society was registered in this province under Act XXI of 1860 during the year under report. The number of such Societies registered under the Act and existing at the close of the year was twelve.

Working of Acts V and VI of 1912.

193. There were no registered Life Assurance Companies or Provident Insurance Societies in this province during the year under review. A special report regarding the affairs of the People's Mutual Insurance Society, Limited, Cuttack, which was doing business of the nature of a Provident Insurance Society without registration under the Provident Insurance Societies Act, was submitted to Government during the year.

Brahmo Marriage Act, III of 1872.

194. Under the Brahmo Marriage Act eight marriages were registered during the year as compared with nine in 1914-15.

195. Act I of 1876 (B. C.) was in force in six districts in the province. No new office was opened during the year which closed with a total of 31 offices as in 1914. In twelve offices no registration took place. The total number of ceremonies registered rose from 232 to 262. The total receipts of the Qazi Registrars, including gratuities, amounted to Rs. 519-10-0 as against Rs. 480-11-0 in the previous year. **Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act and Qazis Act.**

Municipalities.

[From the Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1915-16.]

196. The Municipalities numbered 55 as in the previous year. The aggregate population of the Municipal areas rose from 1,179,855 to 1,180,919.* A proposal to establish a municipality at Bhadrak in the district of Balasore is under consideration. **Number of Municipalities.**

197. During the year Government carefully examined the question of extending to Municipalities, which did not formerly possess it, the privilege of electing their own Chairman. This has now been granted to the Municipalities of Purulia, Khagaul, Kishanganj, Sasaram, Katihar, Madhubani, Darbhanga and Samastipur. The Katihar Municipality was also empowered to elect two-thirds of its Commissioners. There now remain 23 Municipalities in Schedule II and 6 in Schedule I in which the present system of nominating the Chairman and Commissioners respectively will continue for the present. It is worthy of note that fifteen Municipalities definitely stated that the system of electing a Chairman was not suitable to their local conditions. **Constitution of the Municipalities.**

198. General elections were held in 32 Municipalities and were in most cases keenly contested. In the Bankipore and Khajekalan wards of the Patna City Municipality as many as 35 and 28 candidates stood for four vacancies in each. Election disputes were referred to Civil Courts in Gaya, Barh, Muzaffarpur and Purulia. The election was set aside in Gaya but upheld in Barh. In Muzaffarpur the cases are still pending while that in Purulia was withdrawn. In Puri a section of the electorate re-elected to the Municipal Committee a member who had been removed from office by the Commissioner of the Division for absence from six consecutive meetings. **Elections.**

Following the recommendations of the Committee appointed in pursuance of the Resolution passed at the meeting of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council held on the 26th November 1915, the revision of the existing election rules made under section 15 of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, has been taken in hand with a view to prevent corrupt practices at Municipal elections.

199. Out of 862 meetings convened by the Municipalities, as against 839 in the previous year, 28 were adjourned and 37 proved abortive for want of a quorum. The Municipalities of Tikari (9) and Jhalda (11) alone failed to meet at least once a month. **Number of meetings and attendance of Commissioners.**

200. The Provincial aggregate of rate-payers rose from 206,651 to 207,915. General or partial revision of assessments was made in several Municipalities. This resulted in every case in an increase of revenue which was marked in Patna (Rs. 16,155), where 2,365 new rate-payers were brought on to the list, Muzaffarpur (Rs. 12,359) and Bettiah (Rs. 8,555). The latrine tax was introduced into Forbesganj Municipality while the Kendrapara Municipality levied fees on non-religious processions. No new taxes were brought into force in any other Municipality. **Assessment and Taxation.**

In a number of cases the Municipal Commissioners appear to have misunderstood the provisions of section 97 of the Act prescribing that the revised assessment is not to come into force until the beginning of the financial year next after that in which a valuation is made, and in the Ranchi Municipality, on appeals being lodged, the assessment had to be withdrawn.

* NOTE.—The increases and decreases noted are in comparison with the figures for 1914-15.

Collections.

201. The following Municipalities failed to realize taxes to the extent shown against each :—

	Rs.
Monghyr	64,384
Patna City	18,935
Ranchi	17,306
Muzaffarpur	10,962
Puri	10,675

In Monghyr the arrears are due partly to difficulty in realizing taxes on arable lands owing to the lack of an accurate municipal survey. Since the close of the year a survey has been ordered and Government have made a grant to meet one-half of the cost.

Large remissions were granted by the Municipalities of Muzaffarpur, Monghyr (where a number of rateable holdings were washed away by the Ganges), Darbhanga and Bhagalpur.

Income and Expenditure.

202. The total receipts, including opening balances, amounted to Rs. 46,65,116, and the disbursements to Rs. 36,01,352 leaving a closing balance of Rs. 10,63,764. The main items of income and expenditure during 1914-15 are compared below :—

—	Income.		Increase (+) or Decrease (—).
	1914-15	1915-16	
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening Balance	21,69,419	14,33,315	—7,36,104
Municipal rates and taxes	14,66,015	14,71,863	+ 5,848
Realization under Special Acts	41,941	42,049	+ 108
Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation.	2,13,031	2,80,246	+ 67,215
Grants and contributions	10,85,949	6,92,923	—3,93,026
Miscellaneous	56,888	1,29,168	+ 72,280
Extraordinary and debt	4,67,197	6,15,552	+1,48,355
Total ...	55,00,440	46,65,116	—8,35,324

—	Expenditure.		Increase (+) or Decrease (—)
	1914-15	1915-16	
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
General Administration and collection charges...	1,59,727	1,71,449	+ 11,722
Public safety	1,27,670	1,29,450	+ 1,780
Public health and convenience	23,75,225	25,76,828	+2,01,603
Public instruction	1,26,990	1,45,300	+ 18,310
Contributions	9,866	13,531	+ 3,665
Miscellaneous	1,09,965	90,212	—19,753
Extraordinary and Debt	11,52,885	4,74,582	— 6,78,303
Closing Balance	14,38,112	10,63,764	— 3,74,348
Total ...	55,00,440	46,65,116	— 8,35,324

203. The bulk of the closing balances consists of the unspent Government grants and other contributions for specific works. The fall of three and three-quarter lakhs in the aggregate was attributed mainly to the fact that several Municipalities were able to spend their grants within the year and to the receipt of smaller grants than usual during the year under review. **Closing balance.**

204. The net increase in the tax levied on houses and land (Rs. 6,14,770) was only Rs. 10,248. **Income.—Tax on houses and land.**

205. Tolls on roads and ferries aggregated Rs. 57,757. Tolls on roads are levied only in Sambalpur. In the remaining eleven Municipalities, which derive an income from this source, the figures represent tolls on ferries. There was a net decline of Rs. 14,399, the bulk of which occurred in the Municipalities of Muzaffarpur and Monghyr. In Muzaffarpur large remissions were allowed to lessees owing to floods, while in Monghyr the compensatory grant of Rs. 5,000 made by Government was discontinued. **Tolls on Roads and Ferries.**

206. The total receipts from water-rate were Rs. 1,18,949. This rate is levied in the Municipalities of Gaya, Arrah, Monghyr, Bhagalpur and Daltonganj. The aggregate income showed an increase of Rs. 19,565, of which the Municipality of Gaya contributed Rs. 17,333, derived chiefly from fees for house connections. **Water-rate.**

207. The aggregate receipts from conservancy rates (Rs. 3,10,143) declined by Rs. 793 only, though in Patna City there was a decrease of Rs. 7,309 due to the reduction in the rate of taxation from 7½ per cent. to 6½ per cent. and in Ranchi of Rs. 4,058 owing to the cancellation of the revised assessment under circumstances already mentioned. **Conservancy, including scavenging and latrine rates.**

208. (*a*) *Grants from Provincial and local funds.*—These totalled Rs. 6,93,923. The period under review being one of financial stringency it was not possible for Government to make grants on the same liberal scale as in previous years and this accounted for the falling off of Rs. 3,93,026 in the aggregate. **Contributions.**

In aid of sanitary projects Government made grants aggregating Rs. 15,914 to the Monghyr Municipality (viz., Rs. 11,064 for the extension of settling tanks of filter beds of waterworks and Rs. 4,850 towards the conservancy scheme) and Rs. 19,000 to the Ranchi Municipality for general improvements.

(*b*) *Donations by private individuals.*—Raja Kamaleshvari Prashad Singh of Monghyr contributed Rs. 10,000 towards the improvement of the waterworks and Rai Bahadur Baijnath Goenka of the same town gave Rs. 5,000 in aid of the conservancy scheme.

Of the donation of Rs. 30,000 paid by Babu Sukraj Rai of Bhagalpur, the local Municipality devoted Rs. 14,964 towards the improvement of the Municipal waterworks, and, in accordance with the wishes of the donor, set apart the balance for the establishment of a Municipal Market.

EXPENDITURE.

209. The aggregate outlay on account of general establishment and collection amounted to Rs. 1,60,519. The percentage of the charge for general establishment on total ordinary expenditure was heavy in the Municipalities of Tikari (18·4), Madhupur (16·9) and Revelganj (15·2). **Office and Collection establishment.**

210. The aggregate expenditure on lighting (Rs. 1,26,704) represents an increase of Rs. 2,864. At Raghunathpur, where no expenditure was incurred under this head, the original grant made by the Commissioner of the Division for lighting was, with his sanction, diverted for the improvement of the water-supply. A further grant made by him towards the close of the year could not be utilized. The Jamalpur Municipality spent Rs. 42 only against Rs. 78 in the previous year, the small outlay being due to the contemplated introduction of electric lighting. **Lighting.**

Water-supply.

211. The capital expenditure as well as the establishment charges under this head amounted to Rs. 4,08,289, the aggregate increase being more than forty-two thousand rupees.

A portion of two combined schemes for the new Capital and the Patna City Municipality is in progress, the expenditure during the year being roughly Rs. 68,000 which was met out of the Government grant of Rs. 6,00,000 now at the disposal of the Municipality. The experimental borings in regard to this scheme are still in progress. In Muzaffarpur the construction of the water-works was in progress. In Chapra the experimental borings were continued. In Monghyr the extension of the settling tanks and filter beds has been abandoned for the present at the suggestion of the Sanitary Engineer, and borings are being made to see if an underground source of supply can be found. The extension of the Railway water-supply at Jamalpur is still under the consideration of the Sanitary Engineer. In regard to the waterworks at Bhagalpur the Municipality has taken up improvements estimated to cost sixteen thousand rupees, but other parts of the scheme have for the present been postponed on the advice of the Sanitary Engineer. In Puri further experiments have recently been made, but the result has not been reported to Government. A scheme for the supply of pure drinking water for the town of Hazaribagh from the Kunar river is under examination by the Public Works Department.

Proposals are under consideration to introduce minor water-supply installations at Deoghar, Ranchi, Motihari, Samastipur, Balasore, Sambalpur, and other smaller Municipalities, but the schemes are still immature.

Drainage.

212. There was an increase of Rs. 61,734 in the capital outlay and of Rs. 9,125 in the charges for "Establishment, Repairs, etc." The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,13,705.

In Gaya Rs. 1,90,984 was spent on the scheme in progress. In Arrah an expenditure of Rs. 60,766 was incurred on the construction of new outfalls for drains. In Motihari some eight miles of new drains were completed and the construction of the remaining portion is being pushed on. Work was also in progress in Kishanganj and Deoghar. In Sahibganj work was hampered by floods.

Although during the year under review the construction of drains was not undertaken by Municipalities on a considerable scale, preliminary surveys were completed in a number of towns, and plans and estimates were under preparation or revision in the Sanitary Engineer's Office. Of these the sewerage schemes for the new Capital, Patna City, Puri and Muzaffarpur Municipalities may be mentioned.

Conservancy.

213. The total expenditure on conservancy was Rs. 6,15,211. The decrease of Rs. 47,364 was shared by the Patna and Orissa Divisions. The outlay rose in Gaya, Bhagalpur, Ranchi, Purulia, and Sambalpur while it fell in Puri (Rs. 29,150), Cuttack, Patna City, and Jamalpur. In Puri the decline is attributed to a careful examination and prevention of wasteful expenditure during the festivals, but the defects noticed by the officers of the Sanitary Department are still many in number. In Cuttack, Patna City and Jamalpur the decrease is due to the fact that the expenditure on original works or purchase of plant incurred in the previous year was not repeated.

The conservancy scheme at Monghyr which was sanctioned by Government in October 1915, has since been revised by the Sanitary Commissioner at an estimated cost of Rs. 34,000. Programmes of sanitary improvement have been drawn up by the Muzaffarpur, Hajipur and Sitamarhi Municipalities.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

214. In round figures the expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries rose to five and three-quarter lakhs from four and three-quarter lakhs in the previous year, the increase being marked in the Municipalities of Patna City (by over Rs. 55,000), Chapra (nearly Rs. 27,000) and Darbhanga (over Rs. 26,000).

There was some decrease in five Municipalities including Bettiah and Bhagalpur.

In the Patna City Municipality the increase is due to the extension of the General Hospital at Bankipore, and in Chapra and Darbhanga to the construction of a female hospital. Elsewhere it is attributable partly to increase in the number of patients, and partly to the enhanced price of medicine, diet and instruments.

The decline in Bettiah is due to the hospital being taken over by the Bettiah Raj since the beginning of the year. In other Municipalities it was attributed to the fact that large expenditure incurred on original works or repairs in the previous year was not repeated.

The Ranchi and Darbhanga Hospitals are now equipped with an X-ray apparatus.

215. Expenditure on the combating of epidemic diseases amounted to Rs. 14,717. The decline of over Rs. 11,000 in the aggregate indicates that the province as a whole suffered less from plague and other epidemic diseases in comparison with the previous year. There was an outbreak of cholera in Motihari and of both cholera and plague in Bettiah and Muzaffarpur. In Chapra and Revelganj the latter disease appeared in a less virulent form and also lasted for a shorter period. No Municipalities in the Orissa Division, and in the Chota Nagpur Division only the Daltonganj Municipality (Rs. 61), incurred expenditure under this head. **Plague and other epidemic disease charges.**

216. An aggregate amount of Rs. 3,83,509 was spent on Public Works. The net outlay on establishment and stores rose by Rs. 4,033 and Rs. 1,420, respectively, while that on buildings and roads fell from Rs. 53,444 and Rs. 2,98,830 to Rs. 37,591 and Rs. 2,92,584, respectively. In four Municipalities, namely, in Bettiah, Hajipur, Kishanganj and Forbesganj, the percentage borne by the outlay on Public Works to the total ordinary expenditure was more than 25 per cent. while it was only 4·5 per cent. in Bihar and Bhabua. **Public Works.**

217. Rs. 1,45,300 were spent on Public Instruction. The construction of buildings for primary schools, or the acquisition of land for the purpose, out of the money provided by Government, accounted for the increase of Rs. 18,310 in the aggregate outlay, which was shared by all the divisions, except Patna. The increase was most noticeable in Puri, Chapra and Lalganj while there was a marked decrease in Muzaffarpur where in the previous year a large sum was spent in purchasing books for the Town Hall Library and acquiring land for a primary school. **Public Instruction.**

218. The Municipality of Muzaffarpur borrowed Rs. 35,000 from Government for waterworks, and that of Motihari, Rs. 8,217 for drainage. The outstanding loan liabilities of the fourteen Municipalities indebted to Government amounted at the end of the year to Rs. 7,88,000 in round figures. **Loans.**

219. Unpaid bills amounted to Rs. 37,712. Thirty Municipalities as against twenty-nine in the previous year had unpaid bills on 31st March 1916. In two instances, namely, Katihar and Jhalda, the outstanding liabilities exceed the closing balances. **Unpaid Bills.**

220. Some embezzlements were detected in the Patna City Municipality and the clerk in fault was dismissed after recovery of the amount. In the Gaya Municipality defalcations were made by the Tax Collectors of Wards Nos. I, II, III and IX. The delinquent in Ward No. I was convicted. In other Wards the offenders were, on recovery of the amounts embezzled, punished with dismissal only. The accused in the Madhubani embezzlement case is still absconding. The Tax Daroga of the Dumka Municipality was prosecuted successfully for embezzlement. In Monghyr the services of the English Muharrir were dispensed with for irregularities in accounts. **Audit of Accounts and embezzlements.**

As in several cases recovery of the amounts embezzled was impossible, owing to the insufficiency of the security furnished by the offenders, Government have, since the close of the year, asked the local bodies to consider whether guarantee bonds of insurance companies should not be insisted on. The replies are at present under consideration.

General progress.

221. The key-note of the year was activity in regard to sanitation and water-supply, and a number of important schemes were either in course of completion or under contemplation as noticed above. The restriction of Government grants, however, has necessarily delayed progress. The framing of Model Building Regulations, which largely aim at preventing congestion and securing sanitary conditions, has been taken in hand. The Municipalities were regularly inspected by the Sanitary Commissioner and the three Deputy Sanitary Commissioners working under him.

Twelve Municipalities are now provided with Health Officers paid by Government, and courses have been instituted, at the Sanitary School at Gulzarbagh, for the training of Sanitary Inspectors, half the increased cost of whose pay will be borne by Government for a period of three years.

The Puri Lodging House Act.

[Report on the working of the Puri Lodging House Act during the year 1915-16.]

Extent of application.

222. The Act was in force in the same towns and places as in the previous year.

Number of licensed Lodging Houses and lodgers.

223. In Gaya, the number of licensed lodging houses during the year under report, fell from 596 to 296 and the number of lodgers for whom accommodation was provided from 33,907 to 18,844. In Deoghar the number of lodging houses was 68 with accommodation for 2,856 lodgers against 65 with accommodation for 2,922 lodgers in 1914-15. In the Orissa Division there was an increase in the total number of licensed lodging houses as well as in the number of lodgers. The figures rose from 374 and 16,933 to 549 and 23,179 respectively. The increase was most marked in Jajpur town and the wayside villages in Cuttack, and in Puri town and the *chattis* in that district. The Car festival at Jajpur attracted an unusually large number of pilgrims.

Offences under the Act.

224. The total number of prosecutions under the Act was 203 against 199 in the preceding year and the total amount of fines realized was Rs. 4,024 against Rs. 3,295.

Income.

225. The total income of the lodging house funds during the year amounted to Rs. 56,668 against Rs. 67,802 in the year 1914-15. The income of the Gaya fund fell from Rs. 35,907 to Rs. 21,292. In Deoghar there was a decrease of Rs. 138; in Orissa Division the total income rose from Rs. 29,998 to Rs. 33,617.

Expenditure.

226. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 82,350 against Rs. 74,877 in the preceding year. In Gaya the expenditure was Rs. 26,969 against Rs. 38,018. In the Orissa Division the total expenditure rose from Rs. 34,925 to Rs. 35,515. In Puri alone the increase was Rs. 18,225 which was principally due to the payments made towards the construction of the Mahabir Dharamsala.

Health and Sanitation.

227. In Gaya, the year under report was on the whole healthy. There was no case of plague and the mortality from cholera was also slight. There was no death in lodging houses. The general health of the town of Deoghar was good except for the occurrence of three or four cases of cholera. The health of the town and the *chattis* in Puri was also good throughout the year. The total number of deaths was eighty-five against ninety-two in the previous year. There were six deaths in lodging houses.

District Boards.

[From the Resolution on the working of District Boards in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1915-16.]

Number of District and Local Boards and of Union Committees.

228. The number of District and Local Boards remained unchanged during the year. That of Union Committees was doubled owing to the formation of 12 new Unions at Koath and Chainpur in Shahabad, Jhajha in Monghyr, Supaul and Madhipura in Bhagalpur, Araria in Purnea, Gumla and Bundu in Ranchi, Garhwa and Hussainabad in Palamau, Chas in Manbhum and Gorapur in Cuttack.

District Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members.

229. The meetings held during the year by the eighteen District Boards in the province, including the District Council of Sambalpur, numbered 281 against 288 in the previous year. Of these 10 proved abortive for want of a quorum. With the exception of the Patna District Board, which held only 11 meetings, all the District Boards met at least once a month. The average percentage of attendance of official members varied between 29 in Muzaffarpur and 91 in Saran and that of non-official between 29 in Sambalpur and 81 in Cuttack. In regard to the constitution of the District Boards, instructions were issued last year that in future officials should not accept the post of Vice-Chairman.

Local Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members.

230. The number of meetings rose from 491 to 504. There was, however, an increase (from 23 to 30) in the number of those which proved abortive, and eight Boards, as against six in the previous year, failed to meet once a month. In Sambalpur both the Zamindari Local Boards, which should have met three times in the course of the year, held only two meetings. In the Sadr Local Boards of Sambalpur and Gaya, and the Local Boards of Bhadrak, Jamui, Bihar, Sitamarhi and Bargarh, the attendance of the non-official members fell below 40 per cent. of the maximum, being only 17 per cent. in the case of the last mentioned Board. On the other hand, the non-official members of the Sadr Local Board at Cuttack attended on the average four in every five meetings while a large number of Boards show an average attendance of two meetings in every three.

Constitution of the Boards.

231. The three Local Boards of the Cuttack district were reconstituted during the year on a more representative basis, and the attendance of the members shows that they take a real interest in their duties. The Commissioner notes that the change in their constitution, coupled with a 33 per cent. increase in their resources, has added materially to their efficiency.

The Boards at Hajipur, Madhubani, Samastipur and Sitamarhi have also undergone reconstitution.

Work of the Local Boards.

232. In the Patna Division the Local Boards are being gradually entrusted with the supervision of sanitation, construction of school buildings, management of dispensaries, and the control of Primary Education. Instructions have been issued to District Boards to transfer to Local Boards the control of all roads in subdivisions, except those which form main routes of district communication.

Union Committees.

233. The aggregate income of these bodies from all sources amounted to Rs. 40,729 as compared with Rs. 25,522 in 1914-15, and their expenditure rose from Rs. 20,857 to Rs. 39,239. The Union Committees at Jehanabad, Nawadah and Sherghati in Gaya were reconstituted during the year. In the case of nine Unions contributions from District Boards constituted the main source of income, but twelve Committees levied special taxes for sanitary purposes yielding a sum of Rs. 14,163 against Rs. 8,877 in the previous year.

Financial Results.

234. The year opened with a credit balance of Rs. 29,22,675 and the total receipts of the District Boards from all sources amounted to Rs. 82,68,506. The aggregate amount available for expenditure was thus Rs. 1,11,91,181 of which Rs. 92,11,326 was spent during the year, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 19,79,855.

The income and expenditure under the main heads of account during the past two years are compared below:—

—	Income.		
	1914-15	1915-16	Increase (+) or Decrease (—).
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue	6,025	9,570	+3,545
Provincial Rates	51,16,985	51,69,007	+52,022
Interest	29,923	36,138	+6,215
Law and Justice	23,718	19,871	—3,847
Police (Pounds)	2,24,787	2,17,019	—7,768
Education	9,01,717	8,97,260	—4,457
Medical	57,954	78,308	+20,354
Scientific and Minor Departments	13,878	13,003	—875
Receipts in aid of compassionate allowance ...	272	233	—39
Stationery and Printing	4,135	3,352	—783
Miscellaneous	26,473	16,768	—9,705
Railways	1,325	9,659	+8,334
Civil Works (including ferries)	9,59,514	8,80,612	—78,902
Loans	1,00,000	50,000	—50,000
Deposits and Advances	8,38,166	8,67,706	+29,540
Total ...	83,04,872	82,68,506	—36,366

—	Expenditure.		
	1914-15	1915-16	Increase (+) or Decrease (—).
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Interest and Debt	13,063	15,382	+2,319
Administration	1,78,065	1,86,745	+8,680
Police (Pounds)	28,855	22,796	—6,059
Education	14,33,305	15,93,495	+160,190
Medical	5,68,860	7,06,108	+137,248
Scientific and Minor Departments	90,878	1,14,889	+24,011
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions ...	57,898	57,266	—632
Stationery and Printing	40,935	39,793	—1,142
Miscellaneous	22,311	17,701	—4,610
Famine Relief	1,039	61,792	+60,753
Railways	17,932	253	—17,679
Civil Works (Public Works)	53,76,488	55,10,203	+1,33,715
Repayment of Loans	22,002	74,681	+52,679
Deposits and Advances	9,59,654	8,10,222	—1,49,432
Total ...	88,11,285	92,11,326	+4,00,041

INCOME.

235. (Rs. 9,570).—The increase from Rs. 6,025 to Rs. 9,570 was chiefly due to receipts from the tax levied by the Dhanbad Union Committee in the district of Manbhum. **Land Revenue.**

236. (Rs. 51,69,007).—The income under this head showed an increase of Rs. 52,022 to which revaluation proceedings and better collection of both arrear and current demands in Purnea and Bhagalpur contribute Rs. 1,15,640, while an increase of Rs. 40,623 in Manbhum is ascribed chiefly to increased assessments on coal mines. In the Tirhut Division a net decrease of Rs. 1,13,487, which was shared by all districts except Champaran, is explained by good realizations during the previous year and a consequent diminution in the arrears collected in the year under report. **Provincial Rates.**

237. (Rs. 2,17,019).—Though the number of pounds rose from 1,377 to 1,385, the receipts fell from Rs. 2,24,787 to Rs. 2,17,019, a decrease due chiefly to a decline of the income from this source in the Tirhut and Chota Nagpur Divisions, where it is accounted for by smaller receipts from the sale of unclaimed stray cattle, poor realization of rents and want of competition amongst the bidders for pounds. The system of triennial settlement remained in force in Patna and Gaya and worked successfully. **Police pounds.**

238. (Rs. 2,54,500).—The net decrease of Rs. 18,142 in the total receipts under this head was shared by all the divisions except Orissa, which showed an increase of Rs. 7,484. In the districts of the Tirhut Division the decrease is attributed chiefly to the settlement of ferries at reduced rentals, but in Muzaffarpur also to the non-receipt of rent of joint ferries under the management of other Boards and to the remission of rent allowed to lessees on account of losses caused by floods. A decline of Rs. 5,407 in the Bhagalpur Division is attributed in part to changes in the course of the Kosi river in the Bhagalpur District. **Ferries.**

239. A sum of Rs. 50,000 was placed at the disposal of each Commissioner for augmenting the resources of the District Boards and District Committees, the distribution by districts being left to the discretion of the Commissioners. The total grants made by the Local Government to District Boards for educational purposes amounted to Rs. 8,44,147. In addition the following grants were made for specific purposes :— **Contributions.**

(1) Rs. 27,000 to Palamau for improvement of the road from Daltonganj to Garu and for the Latehar-Chandwa section of the Ranchi-Daltonganj road.

(2) Rs. 25,000 to Manbhum for the construction of a bridge over the Khudia Nalla on the Gobindpur-Giridih road.

(3) Rs. 25,000 to Balasore for improvement of the Bhadrak-Chandbali road.

(4) Rs. 12,000 to Sambalpur for construction of bridges on the Bilaspur road.

(5) Rs. 10,000 to Ranchi for improvement of a Railway feeder road from Lohardaga to the Sirguja boundary.

(6) Rs. 10,000 to Cuttack for improvement of the road from Vyas Sarovar to the Keonjhar State.

Contributions for other purposes have been shown under the appropriate heads in Statement II.

240. A loan of Rs. 50,000 was taken by the District Board of Manbhum towards the close of the year for the construction of a bridge over the Kasai river. No loan was taken by any other District Board. **Loans.**

EXPENDITURE.

241. (Rs. 1,86,745).—The increase of Rs. 8,680 in the aggregate expenditure under this head was shared by all the divisions and is due to a number of causes, none of which need special mention. **Administration.**

Education.

242. (Rs. 15,93,495).—The increase of Rs. 1,60,190 in the expenditure on education, which rose from Rs. 14,33,305 to Rs. 15,93,495, was contributed by all the District Boards except Saran, Bhagalpur and Palamau, and was, as in the previous year, chiefly due to the construction and repair of school buildings, the payment of enhanced stipends to teachers, increased grants to aided schools and purchase of furniture and apparatus.

The number of Middle Schools maintained by District Boards rose from 102 to 107 and the cost of maintenance from Rs. 1,29,168 to Rs. 1,75,346. There was an increase of 134 in the number of Primary Schools maintained by the Boards, with a resultant increase in expenditure from Rs. 55,185 to Rs. 67,419. The total sum paid by the Boards in the shape of grants-in-aid amounted to Rs. 11,29,522 against Rs. 10,55,360 in the previous year.

Rules under the Local Self-Government Act were issued under Education Department Notification No. 1655-E., dated the 8th September 1915, directing that contributions from the District Fund may be given only to schools in which instruction is not carried beyond the middle vernacular standard in the case of boys, and the primary standard in the case of girls.

No Board failed to attain the minimum fixed by Government for expenditure on education.

Special Schools.

243. The number of special schools chiefly maintained by District Boards rose from one to three, while that of aided industrial schools remained stationary at twelve. There was nothing specially noticeable with regard to these institutions. Besides maintaining, or making grants-in-aid to technical schools, several Boards awarded scholarships to students attending special schools, such as the Bihar School of Engineering, the Veterinary College at Belgachia, the Deaf and Dumb School, the Medical College and Government School of Arts at Calcutta, and the Government Weaving Institute at Serampore.

Medical.

244. (Rs. 7,06,108).—There was an increase of Rs. 1,37,248 in the total expenditure on Medical relief and sanitation, including water-supply. Of the Boards only Hazaribagh and Puri (by a very small margin) failed to spend the minima fixed by Government for such expenditure. During the year supplementary instructions were issued explaining how these minima should be calculated.

The number of dispensaries maintained by District Boards rose from 128 to 141 and that of aided dispensaries from 74 to 79. Six new dispensaries were opened in Monghyr (1), Darbhanga (1), Palamau (2) and Cuttack (2). Four dispensaries under the Bettiah Raj were transferred to the charge of the District Board of Champaran. The question of issuing instructions for dealing with outbreaks of epidemic disease in the interior of districts is still under consideration. It is satisfactory to see that the "treatment" system is gradually becoming popular in rural areas. In Cuttack the travelling dispensary continues to do useful work. The Shahabad District Board has taken over the travelling dispensary hitherto maintained by Government, while a number of Boards have employed with success Sub-Assistant Surgeons for itinerant duties and the local treatment of disease.

Apart from an increase in dispensary equipment, an abnormal rise, in the price of European medicines, is reported.

Sanitation.

245. (Rs. 95,877).—The increase of Rs. 12,961, in the expenditure under this head, is satisfactory. The largest expenditure was incurred by the District Boards of Gaya (Rs. 16,121) and Patna (Rs. 13,982). There was a noticeable increase in the sanitation charges of the Shahabad, Monghyr and Ranchi Boards which spent Rs. 3,030 (against Rs. 657), Rs. 13,378 (against Rs. 4,349) and Rs. 4,087 (against Rs. 1,000), respectively, during the year.

The sanitary work done by the Boards was chiefly confined to cleaning of villages, disinfection of wells, improvement of water-supply and sanitary arrangements at fairs. The question of framing rules under section 138 (*n*) of the Local Self-Government Act to regulate the powers and duties of District Boards and Sanitation Committees in regard to sanitation is still under the consideration of Government.

246. (Rs. 93,186).—The total expenditure rose from Rs. 72,347 to Rs. 93,186, the increase being marked in the districts of Saran (Rs. 4,115) and Champaran (Rs. 4,639). It is evident the activities of this department are expanding and that its work is being better appreciated by the general public, though distrust of inoculation has still to be overcome. It is reported that some local bodies are beginning to take an interest in the improvement of the local breed of cattle, but much more could still be done in this direction. **Veterinary charges.**

247. (Rs. 39,129).—The pensionary charges of District Boards showed a net decrease of Rs. 3,526 as compared with the previous year. **Pension.**

248. (Rs. 61,792).—The expenditure on famine relief shows an increase from Rs. 1,039 to Rs. 61,792 due to test-works in Manbhum. **Famine relief.**

249. (Rs. 253).—The sum of Rs. 253 represents the deficit paid by the Shahabad Board to the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway Company on account of the guaranteed interest at 4 per cent. on the capital outlay. No other expenditure was incurred under this head. **Railways and Tramways.**

250. (Rs. 55,10,203).—The total outlay amounted to Rs. 55,10,203 against Rs. 53,76,488 in the preceding year. The net increase of Rs. 1,33,715 was contributed by the following nine districts, viz., Patna, Shahabad, Darbhanga, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Manbhum, Cuttack, Puri and Sambalpur, the largest increase (Rs. 1,91,445) occurring in Monghyr where the expenditure rose from Rs. 3,65,109 to Rs. 5,56,554, while in Patna a rise of Rs. 1,30,535 in expenditure is accounted for by a larger outlay under the head " Communications ". The total expenditure, however, under the heads " Original Works " and " Repairs " fell from Rs. 23,94,805 and Rs. 16,50,881 to Rs. 23,46,387 and Rs. 16,11,223 respectively. The decrease of Rs. 2,13,103 under " Communications—Original Works " in the Tirhut Division is most noticeable, and is due to a smaller amount being available for expenditure as compared with the preceding year. **Civil Works.**

The improvement of inter-district communications is receiving attention in the Tirhut, Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur Divisions.

The total mileage of metalled, unmetalled and village roads increased from 1,620, 14,076 and 8,362 to 1,691, 14,179 and 8,552, respectively, the average cost per mile being Rs. 389·3, 56·2 and 17 during the year.

251. No new feeder road of any importance was constructed by any of the District Boards in the Tirhut Division. The District Boards of Monghyr and Bhagalpur incurred an expenditure of Rs. 1,19,772 and Rs. 13,275, respectively, on such roads while a sum of Rs. 68,279 was spent by the District Board of Purnea for the maintenance and establishment of the Ganges-Darjeeling road. The District Board of Manbhum completed two bridges, one on the approach road to the Gomoh Railway Station and another on the Adra-Kashipur road, and these were opened to traffic during the year. In Palamau an expenditure of Rs. 16,505 was incurred for the construction of the road from Garhwa-Ranka to the Sirguja border. **Railway feeder roads.**

252. (Rs. 2,34,217).—The total expenditure for original works and repairs rose from Rs. 2,01,492 to Rs. 2,34,217, the increase being shared by all the divisions except Chota Nagpur. The most noticeable features are the increase of Rs. 14,564 in the district of Darbhanga, and the decrease of Rs. 13,166 in Manbhum. The minimum standard of expenditure fixed by Government (Rs. 5,000) for improvement of rural water-supply was reached by all the districts except Palamau and Sambalpur. **Water-supply and water-works.**

253. (Rs. 51,059).—The expenditure under this sub-head rose from Rs. 44,153 to Rs. 51,059, the net increase being contributed chiefly by the District Boards of Darbhanga (Rs. 19,480) and Manbhum (Rs. 14,951), which spent Rs. 22,302 and Rs. 21,912, respectively, on the construction of drains. **Drainage.**

254. (Rs. 59,639).—The total outlay under this sub-head showed an increase of Rs. 3,285 which was shared by the Patna, Bhagalpur and Orissa Divisions. The District Boards of Bhagalpur and Puri alone failed to spend the minimum **Arboriculture.**

amount fixed by Government in Circular letter No. 11641—45-M., dated the 21st October 1913. The District Boards of Saran and Monghyr each deputed a sub-overseer for training in arboriculture at the Sibpur College.

Closing Balance.

255. (Rs. 19,79,855).—The aggregate closing balances of the District Boards, excluding deposits, amounted to Rs. 12,95,257 against Rs. 24,68,807 in the preceding year. The actual balances, however, were still generally far in excess of the prescribed minimum and were due chiefly to the fact that the budgeted allotments under certain heads, chiefly "Education", "Medical" and "Civil Works" could not be fully spent, owing partly to the difficulty in obtaining suitable sites for schools and dispensaries, and partly to a rise in the price of iron and other materials. A quinquennial programme for the years 1915-16 to 1919-20 has been prepared by the District Council of Sambalpur where the want of a well-considered programme of work has been mainly responsible for the large closing balances in recent years.

Acts and Bills.

256. The Bengal Cess Act, IX of 1880, was amended during the year. The re-enactment of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act, III of 1885, is being considered by Government and revised sections for the draft Bill are now under preparation.

Volunteering.

257. The following Volunteer Corps were in existence in the province during 1915-16 and the figures show their state on the 31st March 1916 :—

Designation.	Enrolled strength.	Efficient.
1. Bihar Light Horse	495	495
2. St. Michael's School Cadet Corps	153	152
3. Chota Nagpur Light Horse	761	703
Total ...	1,409	1,350

The corresponding figures for last year showed 1,415 Volunteers of whom 1,304 were efficient.

Marine.

[Administration Report of the Orissa Ports for the year 1915-16.]

THE PORTS OF ORISSA.

Finance.

258. Trade at the Orissa Ports of Puri, Cuttack and Balasore continued to be adversely affected by the war and there was a further decline in the receipts which amounted to only Rs. 1,125 as against Rs. 4,475 in the preceding year. The expenditure was Rs. 11,743 as compared with Rs. 12,917 in 1913-14 and the Fund closed with a debit balance of Rs. 10,618 which was made good by a grant from Provincial revenues.

Trade.

259. The foreign trade came to a complete standstill and there were no dutiable imports at any of the ports. Cuttack and Puri were closed even for the coasting trade. At Balasore the imports for this trade amounted in value to Rs. 16,85,560 against Rs. 19,57,157 and the exports to Rs. 15,69,788 against Rs. 18,26,822 in the previous year.

Arrivals and departure of vessels.

260. The vessels entering the ports during the year numbered 126 with an aggregate tonnage of 25,589 against 142 with an aggregate tonnage of 58,098 in the previous year. The number of vessels that left the ports was 126 with an aggregate tonnage of 24,534 against 146 with an aggregate tonnage of 59,078 in 1914-15.

Inspections.

261. The ports were inspected several times by the Port Officer, Cuttack and Balasore and once by the Port Officer of Calcutta.

Health of the Ports.

262. The health of the ports was generally fairly good but malaria was prevalent at Chandbali for a few months.

STEAM BOILER COMMISSION.

263. The administration of the Bengal Steam Boilers and Prime Movers Act of 1879 in those places in Bihar and Orissa in which the Act is in force continues to remain in the hands of the Boiler Commission under the Government of Bengal. **Administration of the Act.**

264. The number of boilers inspected in the districts of this province was 1,510 against 1,709 in 1914-15 and the fees realized on account of such inspections amounted to Rs. 27,253 against Rs. 29,875 in the preceding year. The decrease was mainly due to the fact that, owing to the war and general trade depression, few new boilers were imported. **Inspection of boilers.**

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Agriculture.

[The report of the Agricultural Department in Bihar and Orissa for the year ending 30th June 1916.]

Organization.

265. It was mentioned in last year's report that, under the reorganization scheme sanctioned by the Secretary of State, two Deputy Directors in addition to the existing Deputy Director with his headquarters at Bankipore, and one Assistant Director of Agriculture were appointed, and that a new experimental farm had been recently opened at Ranchi. The object of these measures was to place a Deputy Director in charge of each of the experimental farms at the three centres of Cuttack, Ranchi and Bankipore, and to ensure the better supervision of agricultural work in the three distinctive tracts of the province, namely the areas of Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa. The Assistant Director was posted to the Bhagalpur Division to work in co-operation with the staff of the Agricultural College at Sabour. It was further intended that to each district an Inspector should ultimately be appointed, and provided with a small demonstration farm, and finally that a number of *Kamdars* recruited from the ordinary cultivating classes should be trained to demonstrate in their villages the benefits of improved methods and agricultural instruments. At the same time it was decided to abolish the Divisional Associations and to entrust their functions to the Assistant or Deputy Directors of Agriculture.

In the year now under report partial effect has been given to these measures. Inspectors have been appointed in nine districts, and the scheme for training *Kamdars* which had been introduced last year in three divisions is reported to have proved successful, and its further extension is under contemplation. The work of the *Kamdars* however needs careful supervision and the measure requires for its full success the appointment of more Inspectors, and the dearth of candidates for the latter posts is disappointing.

Agricultural Stations.

266. The new farm at Ranchi was brought into full working order during the year. There was no change in the number of Government stations, but two new Demonstration Farms, belonging to private individuals, were opened, one at Kendrapara and the other at Kanika, in the Orissa Division and were placed under the control and supervision of the Agricultural Department.

Agricultural Education.

267. The most important feature of the year was the introduction of a preliminary two years' course in place of the three years' Diploma Course of the Provincial College, in conformity with the Resolution passed by the Board of Agriculture in India at the meeting held at Coimbatore in December 1913. The current three years' course will, however, be continued, concurrently with the new course, till it comes to an end in March 1918. The reduction of the period of the course has resulted in an increase in the number of students on the rolls from 20 to 25, of whom seven belong to this province as compared with one only in the previous year. With a view both to encourage the study of agriculture in Bihar and Orissa, and to obtain suitable candidates for the important posts of District Inspectors, the sanction of Government has been accorded to the creation of three Government scholarships of a monthly value of Rs. 20 each, to be awarded to selected students of the province on condition that they accept service under the Local Government on passing the final examination.

Research and Experiments.

268. Experimental and research work was conducted on the same lines as in the previous year at the five Agricultural stations and Farms and at Sabour. Mr. Taylor, the Agricultural Chemist, continued his interesting investigations regarding aconitic acid in the juice of the sugarcane ; he also carried out other scientific work on sugarcane.

The Director notes that Pusa wheat is increasing in popularity and that the demand for seed has outstripped the quantity stored, but the extension of its cultivation was hampered by shortage of seed due to the failure of the previous season's crop. The supply of Java-Natal indigo seed was also unequal to the increased demand, consequent on the high price of natural indigo. The system, initiated in the previous year, of obtaining a return of the area under jute through the agency of Panchayats was repeated in the Purnea District, and crop tests were made to secure a more accurate estimate of the normal outturn. The *Agrotis* campaign was continued at Ghogha and Colgong with very satisfactory results and nearly half a million parent moths were destroyed by the improved traps in use. Inquiries regarding a number of other insect pests were also conducted at Sabour.

269. During the year the Divisional Agricultural Associations were finally abolished in accordance with the reorganization scheme already mentioned. Demonstration work was chiefly confined to the districts in which Inspectors were appointed. Except in Orissa, the results achieved by the District Associations were disappointing, but the scheme is still in its infancy and a further trial is necessary before any conclusion can be drawn. A closer touch is being established between the Agricultural and Co-operative Credit Departments, and the Co-operative Societies are being utilized more freely for the introduction of agricultural improvements. **Agricultural Associations, Fairs and Shows.**

270. The number of borings made by the Department compares unfavourably with the work done in the Patna Division in previous years but the Director explains that the cost of wells has been largely enhanced by the great increase in the price of casing pipes, while in the Bhagalpur Division, where the majority of the borings were made, the depth to which they have to be taken makes the price prohibitive to the ordinary cultivator. The District Boards of the Patna Division made 58 borings of which 48 were successful. **Agricultural Engineering and Well-boring.**

The question of appointing an Agricultural Engineer to supervise well-boring operation has been postponed until financial conditions improve. In view of the success which has attended these operations in the Bihar districts, as established by the report of the special officer, deputed to inquire into their results during the past eight years, it has been decided to extend demonstrations in well-boring to the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions under the supervision of the Deputy Directors of Agriculture stationed at Cuttack and Ranchi.

271. In addition to the usual reports and returns issued by the Department, the college staff at Sabour published, or prepared for publication, in the half-yearly Agricultural Journal of the province certain papers dealing with various interesting subjects connected with Agriculture. **Publication of Agricultural information.**

272. Arboricultural work continued to receive adequate attention from the District Boards, most of which incurred expenditure on roadside planting in excess of the minimum fixed by Government for each district. **Arboriculture.**

Fisheries.

273. The activities of the Fishery Department in Bihar and Orissa were, as hitherto, directed mainly to Carp and Hilsa culture. Little advance has been made in regard to Hilsa, and the conditions under which they breed have not been clearly ascertained. In regard to the spawning habits of the Indian Carp, Mr. Southwell has found that in certain tanks in Midnapur and Bankura this species breeds in shallow water early in the rainy season, a discovery to which he attaches the highest importance and the further development of which will be awaited with special interest. The successful elimination of predatory fish from the consignments of Carp fry and the increase in the demand for fry are satisfactory indications of the Department's progress. **Fisheries.**

Financial considerations have necessitated the postponement for the present of the proposal for the appointment of an Assistant to be trained by Mr. Southwell, with a view to his taking over independent charge of Fishery work in Bihar and Orissa.

Veterinary Department.

[Report of the Civil Veterinary Department in Bihar and Orissa for 1915-16.]

Veterinary Instruction.

274. To fill existing vacancies and to meet increasing demand for Veterinary Assistants for some years to come, special efforts were made to secure young men from the province for training in the Bengal Veterinary College by addressing local bodies and the various schools and colleges ; the result was satisfactory as the number of admissions rose to 27 as against 11 of the previous year. The standard of education possessed by the successful candidates for stipends is somewhat low, but is a natural consequence of the policy hitherto adopted that recruits should, so far as possible, be drawn from the agricultural, rather than the clerical, classes.

Organization and staff.

275. The subordinate staff of the Department was increased by the appointment of two Inspectors and two Veterinary Assistants, but thirteen sanctioned posts in the latter rank remained vacant for want of candidates. The proposals recently submitted to the Government of India for the complete reorganization of the Department include, in addition to the gradual increase in the cadre of the subordinate staff necessary to satisfy the minimum requirements of the province, the appointment of two Additional Superintendents to enable the superior staff to cope successfully with the heavy tasks of supervision and prevention of disease over so wide an area.

Cattle-diseases.

276. Though the improvement noticed last year in the arrangements for reporting outbreaks of cattle-disease was on the whole well maintained, a large number of outbreaks still remain unreported, while difficulty is constantly experienced in inducing owners to submit their animals to preventive treatment. The Indian cultivator is notoriously conservative, and religious prejudices in particular die hard, but there are welcome indications in certain areas of assistance from Co-operative Societies, and the Superintendent has brought to notice instances in which members have reported outbreaks of their own accord or were instrumental in getting a large number of animals inoculated. The help which the Co-operative Societies are willing to extend to the veterinary staff is an important factor in the future development and success of the Department.

As usual rinderpest and hæmorrhagic septicæmia were mainly responsible for the reported mortality among cattle, claiming respectively 18,851 and 4,016 victims out of the provincial aggregate of 24,442. The former disease was particularly virulent in the district of Puri, where the reports of the previous three years had shown only a light, though increasing, mortality.

The fall in the number of cattle inoculated by the regular staff, from 85,688 to 58,762, is disappointing after the rapid progress achieved in the preceding three years and is ascribed partly to the absence on leave or deputation of three experienced Inspectors, but mainly to the opposition encountered in the Bihar districts. The important experiment in inoculation against rinderpest and hæmorrhagic septicæmia in the Ranchi district by the agency of locally trained inoculators was disappointing in its results, but the Local Government are not prepared to abandon it without further trial.

Dispensaries.

277. There was an increase from 20 to 23 in the number of hospitals for in-patients open during the year. The total number of in and out-patients treated in these hospitals rose to 26,213 from 26,044 in the preceding year.

Breeding operations.

278. The Government Cattle-breeding Farm at Sipaya continues to make satisfactory progress, and the strength of the herd now stands at 204 as against the 51 animals with which it was started in 1914. The condition and general health of the cattle are reported to have been good. The number of requisitions for bulls is increasing and it will be a long time before it will be possible to comply with all the applications received.

Co-operative Societies.

[Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in Bihar and Orissa for the year ending the 31st May 1916.]

279. The table below summarizes the progress of Societies of all kinds made during the year ending on the 31st May 1916 :— General Progress.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL PROGRESS.

Year.	Societies.			Total.	Remarks.
	Central.	Non-Agricultural.	Agricultural.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Number of Societies.		
1914-15	19	49	1,019	1,087	
1915-16	20	55	1,221	1,296	
Total ...	+1	+6	+202	+209	
			Membership.		
1914-15	1,926	7,417	45,304	54,647	
1915-16	1,956*	7,995	51,459	61,410	* Includes 865 individual members.
Total ...	+30	+578	+6,155	+6,763	
			Working Capital.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1914-15	17,09,685	2,03,455	17,33,957	36,47,097	
1915-16	20,72,958	2,16,749	20,37,795	43,27,502	
Total ...	+3,63,273	+13,294	+3,03,838	+6,80,405	

The aggregate working capital at the close of the year stood at Rs. 43,27,502 representing an increase of more than six lakhs of rupees over the corrected figure of the previous year. Only one new Central Bank was opened, as compared with seven in the previous year : a second was registered but did not begin work until after the close of the year. There were 1,221 primary Agricultural Societies against 1,019 in the previous year while the membership increased by 6,155 and the working capital by over three lakhs of rupees. There was an increase of more than three and a half lakhs of rupees or nearly 20 per cent. in the working capital of the Provincial and Central Banks. There were also six new additions to the non-agricultural societies. The keynote of the year's work was consolidation rather than expansion. The Provincial Bank continued to make good progress and has proved a source of strength to the Central Banks. At the end of the period under review the bank had the large sum of over one lakh of rupees lying idle in the Bank of Bengal; it is explained that this was due mainly to the unusually stringent measures adopted in the closing months of the year for the collection of loans as well as to cautious financing on the part of the Central Banks and to timidity in borrowing by the Agricultural Societies. The surplus funds were invested in suitable securities shortly after the close of the year.

280. The number of Central Societies other than the Provincial Bank rose from 18 to 19 and their working capital from a little more than 14 lakhs to nearly 17 lakhs of rupees. The number of affiliated Societies also rose to 1,066 from 888 in the previous year. Their paid up share capital aggregated Rs. 2,13,301 and their reserve Rs. 55,112 or a total of Rs. 2,68,413 as against loans and deposits amounting to Rs. 14,30,118. The working of the Central Banks shewed on the whole considerable improvement, especially in the case of Central Banks.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

those in charge of trained Managers. The cost of management of these Banks works out to the remarkably low figure of 2 per cent. of the working capital, a result rendered possible only by the large number of honorary workers engaged. It was reported that the work of some of the Banks suffered from a want of system and the necessity of drawing up a clear programme of work for the whole year and of faithfully adhering to it has been impressed upon them. Some of these Banks have also been singled out by the Officiating Registrar for special commendation as examples of what co-operation can achieve when conducted on strictly business lines even when, as in the case of the Ranchi Union, the Bank works without official help. The success of this Union in its efforts to improve the indigenous handloom industry furnishes a useful object-lesson and justifies the support given by the Local Government to the experimental scheme undertaken by the Union for demonstrating the use of the fly-shuttle loom.

Agricultural Societies.

281. These Societies are all of the Raiffeisen type with unlimited liability. The share system is being introduced in some places but it has not gained much popularity. The number of Societies rose from 1,019 in the previous year to 1,221. Of these, 1,066 were affiliated to Central Banks, leaving only 155 societies controlled by private workers. The percentage of the Agricultural Societies affiliated is practically the same this year as it was in the previous year, viz., 87 per cent. The number of members and the total working capital rose from 45,304 and Rs. 17,33,957 to 51,459 and Rs. 20,37,795, respectively, while the reserve fund increased from Rs. 1,40,732 to Rs. 2,09,190. The deposits by members increased from Rs. 1,09,316 to Rs. 1,16,571. The Chota Nagpur Catholic Mission Society, which is the largest of these Societies, has now 10,710 members with a working capital of Rs. 1,20,214 against 10,675 members with a working capital of Rs. 1,28,000 in the previous year.

The total number of members of the German Evangelical Lutheran Mission Societies, which are twelve in number, is 2,337 and the share capital is Rs. 6,935. The deposits by members amount to Rs. 26,839 while the reserve stands at Rs. 12,002. During the year under review the Societies had to do without their former European supervision. With careful audit which will be undertaken every year it is expected that they will continue to do good work.

Important Annual General meetings were held everywhere in accordance with the by-laws and the Registrar's Circular.

The "Twelve main points of co-operation" have been put into verse by several versifiers in Hindi, Urdu and Oriya. Every Society now possesses a copy of these verses and many members can repeat them from memory. During the year under review there was a great advance in the matter of prompt action by Central Banks on audit reports.

Non-Agricultural Societies.

282. The number of these Societies rose to 55. The account of the work of these Societies is rather disappointing. With two or three exceptions the "Amla" Societies, 26 in number, have shewn little or no improvement, a result which is ascribed mainly to the apathy of the members themselves and to the failure of public-spirited persons to come forward to manage and supervise the work of these Societies.

Other forms of Co-operation.

283. The Patna Durry-makers Society has been hit very badly by the war, after a promising start. Owing to a scarcity in dyeing material business has almost come to a standstill.

Three Societies deal in stores. That recently registered at Nawadah has not yet commenced work. The other two, viz., the "Catholic Mission Store" and the "Secretariat Store" at Ranchi are well established but their utility from the co-operative point of view is not very evident.

The two Milk Societies at Gaya and Bhagalpur are still more or less in the experimental stage but have already shewn encouraging results, and it is hoped that before long their example will be followed by the institution of similar Societies in other parts of the province. Of the ten Weavers' Societies, viz., one in Bihar, two each in Cuttack and Sambalpur and one at Gaya, favourable mention has been made of one at Cuttack and one at Sambalpur, both of which have been successful in popularizing the use of the fly-shuttle loom among

their members. The Societies are handicapped by the want of expert advice which neither the Registrar nor the honorary workers can give, but it is hoped that this need will be supplied by the appointment of a Director of Industries who will be an expert in weaving and one of whose most important duties will be the encouragement and development of the weaving industry throughout the province.

The Mochi Society at Ranchi has found a stumbling-block in the want of a suitable agent for buying leather at wholesale rates.

284. It will be seen from the facts mentioned above that the movement is making very satisfactory progress and bids fair to add materially to the prosperity and welfare of the country in the future. **Indirect effects.**

Weather and Crops.

[Season and Crop report of Bihar and Orissa, 1915-16. Crop forecasts of Bihar and Orissa, 1915-16. Area and yield of certain principal crops in India, 1915-16.]

285. The rainfall was slightly above normal throughout the province in March, in April below normal everywhere, while in May it was variable, some districts receiving more, and some less, than the average. It was generally deficient in June and in July, when the Tirhut districts, with Gaya and Patna, alone received a fall equal to or above normal, the want of rain was seriously felt in Sambalpur, Puri and Singhbhum. In August there was a rainfall in excess of the normal in the North Ganges districts, which suffered in some cases severely from floods, but elsewhere it was below normal and the deficiency was severe in the Chota Nagpur Division. In September though in many districts, including all those of the Chota Nagpur Division except Ranchi, the fall was still below normal, there was a general and welcome rain throughout the province, and in October the rainfall universally attained or even exceeded normal proportions. In November it was actually excessive in the coast districts of Orissa, and elsewhere, with the exception of Champaran, above normal. December and January were practically rainless, and in February the rainfall was generally deficient, though slightly above normal in Patna and the districts of the Tirhut Division. **Character of the season.**

It may be said briefly that the weather was, on the whole, not unfavourable, judging by the produce of the various crops, although the summer drought in the Chota Nagpur plateau and the autumn floods in Tirhut and the northern part of the Bhagalpur Division were adverse factors and did considerable damage.

The table below shows the estimated area and outturn in 1915-16 of *bhadoi*, winter or *rabi* crops in comparison with the corresponding revised estimates of the previous year and of a normal year :—

Name of Harvest.	Normal area in acres.	Area in acres cultivated during 1914-15.	Area in acres cultivated during 1915-16.	Taking 100 to represent the normal outturn how much represented the outturn for the year. 1914-15, 1915-16.	
(1) *Bhadoi*					
(a) Food crops	8,950,100	8,789,700	8,532,400	80	84
(b) Non-food crops ...	8,271,200	8,227,900	8,140,800		
(2) Winter { Winter rice ...	678,900	561,800	391,600	70	110
(2) Winter { Sugarcane and other winter crops.	11,854,500	12,359,100	12,429,300		
(3) *Rabi*					
(a) Food crops	604,000	501,000	558,700	88	94
(b) Non-food crops ...	11,423,300	9,757,500	9,959,600	74	92
		7,614,400	7,836,400		
		2,143,100	2,123,200		
Total ...	32,831,900	31,407,300	31,480,000	74	97

12667

Bhadoi or autumn crops.

286. In spite of the heavy rains and consequent floods in the North Gangetic area during autumn and the defective rainfall from June to August in parts of the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions, the weather conditions were, on the whole, favourable to those crops, and their outturn, excluding jute and indigo, amounted to 84 per cent. of the normal as against 80 per cent. in the previous year.

Aghani crops—winter rice.

287. Notwithstanding the early drought and the autumn floods already mentioned, and somewhat excessive November rains in the coast districts of Orissa, the outturn of the crop for the province as a whole was good and was estimated at 110 per cent. of the normal against 78 per cent. in the previous year.

Rabi crops.

288. The figures of the area under cultivation have already been given in the statement above. The general outturn showed a considerable improvement on that of the previous year, the wheat crop being estimated at 100 per cent. as against 65 per cent., oilseeds at 88 per cent. as against 70 per cent., and other *rabi* crops at 92 per cent. as against 77 per cent. of the normal. This result is due largely to the fact that the good rainfall in September and October was helpful for sowing, while the absence of rain in December and January hardly affected the crops except in some parts of Chota Nagpur.

Jute.

289. Turning to special crops, the weather conditions were generally favourable for jute, although some want of rain was reported from Cuttack at the sowing season, while cessation of rain in the latter part of May is said to have affected the growth of the crop in parts of Balasore, and some damage was done by excessive rains and floods in Champaran. The area under jute in the province was estimated at 188,100 acres against 330,100 acres of the previous year but the outturn was estimated at 108 per cent. of the normal as against 70 per cent. last year. The gross yield of the crop for the province was estimated at 609,600 bales as against 693,200 bales of last year, the decrease being due to the reduction of acreage owing to the fall in the price of jute in 1914-15 as a result of the war in Europe.

Indigo.

290. The crop is cultivated in eight districts of Bihar chiefly in the Tirhut Division. Owing to the failure of rains during September 1914, there was in the North Bihar Districts insufficient moisture in the land to secure both the Java and Sumatrana indigo crops. The produce was also to some extent affected by the floods towards the end of August 1915 and also, it is thought, by the poor quality of much of the Sumatrana seed obtained from up-country. The weather conditions during manufacture also were not generally favourable. Nevertheless, owing to the high prices at present obtainable, there was a large increase of the acreage under this crop, and, according to the estimates of the district officers, the area sown was 60,800 acres as against 38,500 acres in the previous year, while the total yield worked out to 10,584 factory maunds against 8,181 factory maunds in 1914-15.

Tea.

291. There were 21 gardens in Ranchi and one in Hazaribagh, the area under cultivation being in the former district 2,063 and in the latter 90 acres only. The total outturn of tea (black and green) in 1915 was 293,207 pounds as against 282,414 pounds in 1914.

Sugarcane and Sugar.

292. Sugarcane is cultivated chiefly in Bihar proper, although the crop is also important in Manbhum and Hazaribagh. Lack of rain during March, April, May and part of June did some harm to the crop in North Bihar, while in many places floods supervening on this dry weather lowered the vitality of the plants and by bringing up *usar* or salts stunted its growth. The result was a somewhat inferior crop, specially in Tirhut, the most important cane area. According to the estimates of the district officers 261,600 acres were under cultivation with this crop against 265,500 acres in the previous year, and the provincial outturn was estimated at 90 per cent. of the normal against 95 per cent. last year.

The total output of sugar produced by the refineries in the Tirhut Division and the districts of Shahabad and Monghyr is reported to be 370,422 maunds against 439,192 maunds, the revised figure of the previous year. In spite of

the fall in bulk, prices were good and the factories worked at a profit. It may perhaps be mentioned that a considerable quantity of cane grown in this province finds its way to the Pertabpur and Bhabnauli Concerns in Gorakhpur. The sugar produced in these factories is reported in the statistics of the United Provinces and they have furnished the following figures of the cane received from Saran during 1915-16 :—

	Maunds.
Pertabpur	170,000
Bhabnauli	73,826

Forests.

[The Annual Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1915-16.]

Changes in the Administration.

293. During the year the sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained to the addition of two posts in the local cadre of the Imperial Forest Service, including one post for the preparation and revision of working plans and for sylvicultural research. These posts will be filled up as soon as suitable recruits are forthcoming. Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Assistant Conservator of Forests, has been posted to Bihar and Orissa to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. T. H. Monteath, Deputy Conservator of Forests, but has now joined the Indian Army Reserve of Officers.

The sanction of the Local Government has been accorded to the reconstitution, with effect from the 1st October 1916, of the Singhbhum and Kolhan Forest Divisions into three divisions called the Singhbhum, Chaibassa and Porahat Divisions, of which the Chaibassa and Porahat Divisions have been declared to be minor charges. The charge of the protected forests in the Kolhan Government Estate and in the Manbhum District, which form the Chaibassa Division, has been entrusted to an officer of the Provincial Forest Service in direct subordination to the Deputy Commissioners concerned.

The area under the control of the Forest Department at the end of the year consisted of 1,727 square miles of reserved forests and of 1,062 square miles of protected forests. The areas of protected forests in the Santal Parganas, Palamau, Angul and Sambalpur which are managed by the Deputy Commissioners of those districts totalled 993 square miles, of which some 45 square miles in Angul and 19 square miles in Sambalpur are supervised by the Forest Department.

During the year 247 acres of reserved forest under the control of the Forest Department and 577 acres of other protected forests were given up for cultivation.

After the close of the year an area of 12,373 in Sambalpur was, under section 19 of the Indian Forest Act, declared to be reserved forest, and a notification under section 4 of the Act was issued for the reservation of 300 acres for a casuarina plantation.

Communications and buildings.

294. Rs. 60,635 only were spent on the construction and repair of roads and buildings and other works, against Rs. 81,805 in the previous year. Thirty-four miles of new cart roads and twelve miles of new bridle paths were constructed, as compared with 55 miles of new cart roads and 27 miles of new bridle paths during the year 1914-15. Eight miles of new alignment were completed in the Singhbhum Division. The expenditure on new buildings was Rs. 16,394 only, against Rs. 31,755 in the year 1914-15, the programme having for financial reasons, been restricted, to the completion of unfinished works and the construction of accommodation required for the subordinate executive staff. Special attention was directed to the construction and deepening of wells to provide an adequate supply of good drinking water for the use of the officers and staff of the Department.

Forest offences.

295. The total number of forest offences reported during the year was 1,447, as compared with 1,405 in the previous year. The percentage of convictions obtained in the Courts showed a further rise from 89 to 91. The marked increase in the number of cases of unauthorized felling and removal

of forest produce was mainly due to scarcity in the Kolhan and to better detection in the Sambalpur and Puri Divisions.

Protection from fire.

296. In spite of the fact that the year was exceptionally dry, no rain having fallen in some divisions until June, the results of fire protection were on the whole very satisfactory. Of the area over which fire protection was attempted, 1,069,051 acres, or 96 per cent., were successfully protected as against 88 per cent. in the previous year. There were 86 outbreaks of fire covering an area of 43,096 acres, as compared with 142 outbreaks over an area of 130,027 acres in the year 1914-15. In Singhbhum the early burning of grassy areas along exterior fire lines was tried with some success, and the Conservator proposes to adopt the same method in other dry divisions.

Protection against injuries from natural causes and from cattle.

297. The Palamau Division suffered from a long period of drought, extending from September 1915 to June 1916, while storms uprooted many *sal* trees in the Samtra range of the Singhbhum Division. Wild elephants again did much harm in Angul. No unusual damage is reported from grazing by domestic animals, but the number of cases of illicit grazing detected rose from 101 to 147, and the number of cattle impounded from 365 to 833.

Financial results.

298. Financially the year was satisfactory, the revenue, expenditure and surplus being Rs. 5,56,172, Rs. 3,68,287 and Rs. 1,87,885, respectively, against Rs. 5,49,374, Rs. 3,79,195 and Rs. 1,70,179 in the previous year, and an average of Rs. 4,55,682, Rs. 3,38,423 and Rs. 1,17,259 during the previous quinquennial period.

Manufactures and Mines.

[Statistics of British India, Part I.—Industrial.]

Jute.

299. The area under jute in 1915-16 was estimated at 188,100 acres against 330,100 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was, in round numbers, 609,600 bales against 693,200 bales of the previous year.

Indigo.

300. The area under indigo in 1915-16 was 60,800 acres against 38,500 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was 10,584 factory maunds against 8,181 in 1914-15.

Tea.

301. There were 21 gardens in Ranchi and one in Hazaribagh. The area under tea in 1915 was in Ranchi 2,063 acres and in Hazaribagh 90 acres. The total outturn of tea (black and green) in 1915 was 293,207 pounds against 282,414 pounds in 1914.

Sugar.

302. The total output of sugar produced by the refineries in the Tirhut Division and the districts of Shahabad and Monghyr is reported to be 370,422 maunds, against 439,192 maunds, the revised figure of the previous year.

Coal.

303. During the year 354 coal mines were worked in the province against 377, and the total output of coal was 10,711,356 tons against 10,651,047 in the preceding year. This represents about two-thirds of the total output of India. The greater part came from the Manbhum district where 328 mines yielded 9,584,298 tons. The daily average number of persons employed in the mines rose from 90,681 to 95,120.

Iron.

304. No new iron mines were opened. Of the two existing mines, that in Puri produced only 53 tons of iron while the Singhbhum mine produced 123,764 against 151,029 in the previous year. The mines gave employment to a daily average of 70 and 841 persons, respectively, against 33 and 935 in the preceding year.

Copper ore.

305. During the year the copper ore mine in Singhbhum produced 8,010 tons of the ore against 4,400 tons of the preceding year. The mine gave employment to a daily average of 1,424 persons against 1,867 in 1914.

Mica.

306. The mica industry continues to be adversely affected by the war and the number of mines worked fell from 492 in 1914 to 288 and the total output from 31,149 cwts. to 19,299 cwts. The daily average number of persons employed was only 7,595 against 11,384 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous Manufactures and Industries in each Division.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1915-16.]

Patna Division.

307. No noticeable economic development is reported from any of the districts in the Patna Division. The small industries in cotton and *tassar* silk cloths, which exist in a few places in the Gaya and Patna districts, were not in a flourishing condition. The oil-mills at Dinapur and the Krishna Flour Mill at Gaya are reported to be working well. In Gaya, the mica trade passed through a period of depression, but has since revived. The lac industry declined owing to the fall in prices. Mr. H. E. Tiery's efforts to discover a workable deposit of radio-active pitchblende in the Bhanekhap hills were suspended, as the original syndicate was broken up by the war, some of the Directors being members of a German firm; but since the close of the year traces of another deposit have been discovered. The carpet industry at Obra and Karaipur in the Aurangabad Subdivision of the Gaya District requires assistance from capitalists before it can be established on a prosperous footing. Of the industries in existence in Shahabad, namely, sugar-refining in the Buxar and Sassaram Subdivisions, carpet-weaving at Sassaram and Bhabua, boot-making at Sassaram and Dehri and ornamental pottery at Sassaram, the sugar-refining industry alone can be said to be thriving. Two Co-operative Banks have been opened in the Buxar Subdivision and are prospering. Four companies are working limestone quarries in the Sassaram Subdivision and the exports of limestone and ballast are increasing.

Tirhut Division.

308. During the year there was a marked revival of the indigo industry in this division owing to the war and the consequent stoppage of the supply of synthetic dyes. The total area under cultivation consequently increased in Champaran from 8,100 to 15,100 and in Muzaffarpur from 7,500 to 16,000 acres.

The sugar factories in Saran, Darbhanga, and Champaran enjoyed a prosperous year. A new sugar factory was opened at Lohat in the Darbhanga District during the year. The rice mills in Champaran are reported to have worked fairly well. The silk factory started by the Salvation Army at Bettiah and the mother-of-pearl button factory at Mehsi continued to work satisfactorily. In Darbhanga a new oil-mill, which is used also for rice, was started during the year. The tobacco industry in the same district continued to flourish, the dried tobacco leaves being as usual supplied to the Peninsular Tobacco Company at Monghyr. The most noteworthy feature in this district was the extensive cultivation of sweet potatoes after the floods had subsided. The hide trade in Saran is reported to be reviving. A new Agricultural Museum is in course of construction in Muzaffarpur town. The Annual Tirhut Industrial Exhibition was held there as usual.

Bhagalpur Division.

309. Cigarettes continued to be manufactured in large quantities by the Peninsular American Tobacco Company at Monghyr, and country cigarettes, called *biri*, at Jhajha in the same district. Work ceased entirely in the mica mines in the Jamui Subdivision. The other industries of the district, namely, brick-making, slate-quarrying, the manufacture of sugar and *gur*, and weaving on country looms, continued as usual. The two existing oil-mills are reported to be in a prosperous condition. The number of persons employed in the Jamalpur Workshops slightly increased owing to the manufacture of munitions. The *bafta* and *tassar* cloths of Nathnagar in Bhagalpur have retained their reputation in the market. A new oil-mill was established during the year in the same town. A technical and industrial school was opened at Benagaria in the Santal Parganas under the care of the Mission of the Northern Churches and a scheme is on foot for the establishment of such a school in each subdivision of the district. The grain *golas* of the Pakaur, Rajmahal and Godda Damins, which gave loans of rice to needy tenants, were converted into Co-operative Banks, and ten village societies were formed in the Pakaur subdivision. The manufacture of towels, bed sheets, shawls, *saris*, etc., continues at Borhait and Borio in the Rajmahal Damin, and the industry is improving. An agricultural exhibition was held at Singheswar in North Bhagalpur as in previous years. The Rosera-Khagaria Extension of the Bengal and North-Western Railway has been opened to traffic.

Orissa Division.

310. Silver filigree work, embroidered slippers and horn-work were as usual manufactured in the town of Cuttack. Shoes turned out by the Utkal Tannery commanded a ready sale, and were exported to Calcutta and other places. The weaving schools opened at Cuttack and Sambalpur for the training of local weavers and the Gandas appear to have made some progress. The reformation work among the Pans in Angul started by the Salvation Army promises well, and possesses great potentiality for the development of this backward district. Twenty-one fly-shuttle looms were supplied and five acres of jungle were reclaimed and planted with mulberry trees with a view to starting silk-spinning this year. The red oxide mine at Bhubaneswar did little business during the year owing to a smaller demand for the output by the Railway Department. In Sambalpur Mr. Casey's sisal hemp (*Agave sisalana*) plantation and factory are steadily progressing. The prospects of the mica industry in the Borasambar zamindari also appear to be good.

Chota Nagpur Division.

311. This division is making material progress in economic development. The joint colliery of the East Indian and Bengal-Nagpur Railway Companies at Badkaro in Hazaribagh continued to develop during the year. The eastern portion of the same seam has been acquired by the Great Indian Peninsular Railway Company, and the work of development will shortly be started. Messrs. Christian, White and Company and Messrs. Harsook Dass and Bithal Dass have also started work in the areas taken up by them in the Ramgarh Ward's estate. The mica mines, both in the Government khas mahals and in the zamindari estates, continued to work on the same scale as in the preceding year. With the exception of the colliery at Rajhara and the lime works at Japla, which continued to work actively, there are no industrial concerns in the district of Palamau, which, while possessing considerable potentialities for the future, is at present almost entirely agricultural in character. In Singhbhum the Tata Iron and Steel Company have since August 1915 been engaged in the supply of steel for the manufacture of shells, and in the manufacture of other munitions. In view of the increasing demands for the products of the Company, the Directors have sanctioned considerable extensions of the works, which have involved also an extension of the power plant and of the housing arrangements for the staff. The Bengal Iron and Steel Company, Limited, continued to quarry for ore at the summit of the Pansira Buru in the Kolhan throughout the year. The amount of ore dispatched was 137,233 tons, against 120,552 tons in the previous year. The Cape Copper Company developed their workings considerably. The amount of copper extracted was 8,010 tons, valued at Rs. 1,80,225 against 4,460 tons, valued at Rs. 99,000 in the previous year. In addition to the Companies already referred to, there were numerous mining operations in Singhbhum for gold, chromite, manganese, limestone and other minerals and metals. The war has accentuated the demand for chromite and many applications for prospecting licenses for this mineral have been received, but the success of the operations is reported to be doubtful. The opening of a motor service between Chakradharpur and Chaibassa by private enterprise proved a great boon to the district and appears to have been a financial success.

Working of the Indian Factories Act.

[Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Assam, for the year 1915.—Statistics of British India, Part I—Industrial.]

Number of factories and system of work.

312. There were forty-nine factories in the province at the close of 1915 against forty-six at the beginning. The average daily number of persons employed was 31,199 of whom 27,806 were adult males. In sixteen factories work was carried on under the system of a midday stoppage and in twenty-two under other arrangements. The remaining eleven were exempted under Part C of schedule I of the Act. The Sunday holiday was observed in twenty-six factories; Sunday or a substituted day in six factories; twelve factories were worked under other arrangements, and the remaining five factories were exempted under various sections of the Act.

Inspections.

313. Inspections by the whole-time Inspectors were made in forty-one factories once, in seven twice, and one factory was not inspected at all. The

District Officers of Patna, Shahabad, Muzaffarpur, Saran, Champaran, Monghyr, Cuttack and Singhbhum made a certain number of inspections in factories in their respective districts.

General health of operatives.

314. The general health of the operatives was good and no epidemics were reported.

Wages and general condition of operatives.

315. The general condition of operatives employed in factories in this province is satisfactory, and there has been no noticeable change in the rates of wages paid in any of the industries. During the early part of the year 1915 engineering firms suffered badly from want of orders, but since August of that year these concerns have been busily employed on the manufacture of munitions, and their only difficulty has been to obtain an adequate supply of skilled labour for this work.

Employment of women and children.

316. The daily average number of women employed was 2,681 and that of children 712, against 2,648 and 727 in the preceding year.

Fencing of machinery.

317. Special attention was paid to the efficient safeguarding of dangerous parts of machinery and many defects have been brought to the notice of the managers of factories. No legal action was taken but in seven cases warnings were issued by the Inspectors. Attention was also given to the provision of suitable fencing for shafting, and it is hoped before long to raise the present unsatisfactory standard to that in force in England.

Accidents.

318. The number of accidents reported during the year was 519 of which 11 were fatal, 99 serious and 409 minor, against 13, 101 and 301 in the preceding year.

Prosecutions, strikes and fires.

319. No prosecutions were instituted, nor were any fires or strikes reported during the year under review.

TRADE.

[Statistics of British India, Part III.—Commercial.]

I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.

Foreign Trade.

320. The sea-borne trade of this province is carried on through the three ports of the Orissa coast, namely, Cuttack, Puri, and Balasore. These were very hard hit by the war, owing both to the prohibition of exports to foreign countries and the commandeering of a number of ocean-going vessels. The foreign trade entirely ceased, the value being nil as against Rs. 5,08,829 in 1914-15.

II.—Coasting Trade.

Coasting Trade.

321. The coasting trade also suffered heavily and none was carried on at the ports of Puri and Cuttack. The value of the trade from the remaining port, Balasore, is shown below :—

		Rs.
Imports.		
Indian	...	12,24,115
Foreign	...	4,60,155
Total	...	16,84,270
Exports.		
Indian	...	15,67,177
Foreign	...	2,611
Total	...	15,69,788
Grand Total	...	32,54,058
		or 32·54 lakhs.

The value of the coasting trade in 1914-15 was Rs. 37·91 lakhs.

III.—Frontier Trade.

Nepal.

322. The trans-frontier trade of Bihar and Orissa with Nepal, after two years' gradual decline, showed improvement, both on the import and export sides, during the year under review. The total value amounted to Rs. 401·03 lakhs against 366·27 in 1914-15, showing an increase of nearly 10 per cent. Of this increase, imports accounted for 17·02 lakhs and exports for 17·75 lakhs. The principal articles which contributed to this result were grain and pulse, jute (raw) and animals (living) on the import side, and on the export side cotton (manufactured), salt, grain, and pulse, metals and manufactures of metals, and sugar. The total value of the trade does not include treasure, the registration of which continues to be defective, since it is generally carried as personal luggage.

Imports.

323. The aggregate value of the imports rose from Rs. 238·20 lakhs to Rs. 255·22 lakhs. The principal articles of import from Nepal are food-grains (principally rice), jute (raw), oilseeds, tobacco, *ghi*, animals (living) and hides and skins. The rice imported was valued at an amount representing 57 per cent. of the total value of all imports and its quantity was maunds 41·64 lakhs against maunds 34·88 lakhs in the previous year. Owing to the large demand in Europe, the import of jute from Nepal rose to maunds 420·159 valued at Rs. 27,81,377 against maunds 284,604 valued at Rs. 17,49,495 of the previous year, showing an increase of 47·6 per cent. in quantity and 58·5 per cent. in value. There was no considerable difference in the figures for other imports except in the case of linseed which decreased in quantity by nearly 50 per cent. and by nearly 60 per cent. in value, and hides and skins the value of which declined by 40 per cent. approximately. The gradual decline in the import trade of hides from Nepal during the last two years may be attributed to the restriction, on account of the war, of exports from India to foreign countries.

Exports.

324. The figures for 1915-16 showed an advance of Rs. 9·59 lakhs or 7·0 per cent. on those of 1913-14 and of Rs. 17·75 lakhs or roughly 14 per cent. on those of 1914-15. Articles manufactured, as distinct from raw products, constitute the bulk of exports from Bihar and Orissa. Of these cotton yarn and piece-goods, mostly of foreign origin, head the list. During 1914-15 transactions in cotton yarn and piece-goods improved by Rs. 3·84 lakhs or 7 per cent. as compared with 1913-14, and the year under report showed a further improvement of about Rs. 6·03 lakhs or 10·5 per cent. The group next in importance is metals and manufactures of metals. The export trade of these articles showed a slight improvement of about Rs. 1·36 lakhs or 14 per cent. Transactions in grain and pulse showed a considerable improvement of about Rs. 1·40 lakhs or 48 per cent. Salt improved in value by 40·5 per cent., sugar by 19·5 per cent., approximately, provisions by 16·5 per cent., oils, chiefly petroleum, by 10 per cent., tobacco by 7 per cent., and spices by 4 per cent., while animals (living) declined by 7 per cent.

IV.—Trade by Railway and River.

Division and value of trade.

325. The main division of this trade (exclusive of animals and treasure) and its estimated value are exhibited in the following table :—

Year.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from other provinces including Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to other provinces including Calcutta.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to Calcutta.
1914-15	Mds. 33,128,768 Rs. 24,38,59,004	Mds. 256,354,555 Rs. 29,24,10,966	Mds. 13,859,941 Rs. 15,09,37,691	Mds. 96,970,511 Rs. 12,02,58,577
1915-16	Mds. 31,469,618 Rs. 24,16,72,109	Mds. 251,672,350 Rs. 30,85,65,585	Mds. 12,726,046 Rs. 14,68,85,262	Mds. 71,794,685 Rs. 10,97,41,743

Of the total value of Rs. 24·16 crores of the imports into Bihar and Orissa, roughly 61·0 per cent. was contributed by the Calcutta trade block, 15·5 per cent. by Bengal excluding Calcutta, 10·5 per cent. by the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, 5·0 per cent. by the Central Provinces and Berar, and the remaining 8·0 per cent. by other provinces.

Of the total exports of Rs. 30·85 crores, some 35·5 per cent. went to Calcutta, 34·5 per cent. to Bengal excluding Calcutta, 12·5 per cent. to the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, 4·5 per cent. to the Punjab, 4·0 per cent. to the Central Provinces and Berar, and the remaining 9·0 per cent. to other provinces.

326. The principal articles of import from Bengal, including Calcutta, were cotton manufactures (Rs. 646·0 lakhs), grain and pulse, chiefly rice (Rs. 272·6 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 179·4 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 93·8 lakhs), oils, chiefly kerosine (Rs. 106·0 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 114·9 lakhs), salt (Rs. 86·7 lakhs); from the United Provinces, cotton manufactures (Rs. 43·4 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 88·3 lakhs), metal and manufactures thereof (Rs. 12·0 lakhs); from the Central Provinces and Berar, cotton manufactures (Rs. 42·3 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 33·9 lakhs). **Imports.**

327. The principal exports from Bihar and Orissa to Bengal, including Calcutta, were coal and coke (Rs. 267·4 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 493·0 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 114·3 lakhs), oilseeds (Rs. 162·8 lakhs), jute (Rs. 197·3 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 220·3 lakhs), tobacco (Rs. 55·1 lakhs), and hides and skins (Rs. 120·8 lakhs) ; to the United Provinces, coal and coke (Rs. 79·5 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 30·5 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 50·6 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 60·1 lakhs) and tobacco (Rs. 30·2 lakhs). **Exports.**

328. For the purpose of estimating internal trade by rail, the province is divided into four blocks known as Patna City, Bihar and Orissa, and Chota Nagpur blocks. The trade between those blocks during the year under report is estimated at 29,539,000 maunds of goods. It consisted chiefly of coal and coke, food-grains, metallic ores, sugar, timber, marble and stones and railway materials. **Internal Trade.**

PUBLIC WORKS.

Establishment.

329. From the retirement of Mr. White early in April 1915, the appointment of Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government in the Irrigation Branch was held by Mr. F. Clayton to the end of the year. The appointment of Chief Engineer and Secretary in the Buildings and Roads Branch was held by Mr. Searight up to January 1916 when, on his retirement, he was succeeded by Mr. E. G. Stanley. Mr. H. Wardle, Under-Secretary in the Buildings and Roads Branch, was succeeded in April 1915 by Mr. N. G. Dunbar who continued in charge of the office till the end of the year. The appointment of Under-Secretary in the Irrigation Branch remained vacant during the year. **Administrative changes.**

Two appointments of Assistant Sanitary Engineers were created during the year and Mr. Alexander and Mr. Plomer were appointed to fill them in December 1915 and March 1916, respectively. The terms of service, under a 5 years' agreement, were under consideration at the close of the year.

Owing to a large increase of Electrical Works in the New Capital, it was thought expedient to secure the services of a separate Electric Inspector for the province, and Mr. McIntyre, the Junior Electric Inspector, Bengal, was appointed in February 1916 as Electric Inspector to this Government, under a 5 years' agreement, on a pay of Rs. 600—50—800. The old agreement with the Government of Bengal, under which the services of their Electric Inspector and the cost of his establishment were shared with this province, was terminated.

An Electrical Subdivision was formed under the Special Works Division, to look after the erection and maintenance of electric plant at Patna.

The Hazaribagh Division, which had for some time been temporary, was made permanent with effect from the 1st September 1915.

Subordinate and Ministerial Establishments.

330. Schemes for the revision in scales and pay of the Upper and Lower Subordinate Establishments and of the Ministerial Establishments in the Circles and Divisions were sanctioned during the year, with the approval of the Government of India, but their introduction has been deferred till the financial outlook improves.

Buildings.

Imperial Works.

Military Works.

331. At the Gun-testing range at Chandipur, a gun shelter was constructed and additions and alterations were made to the Shell Store.

Civil Works, Post and Telegraph Offices.

332. The combined Post and Telegraph Office with the quarters for the Postal Staff at Bhagalpur, and similar offices in the new Capital at Patna and at Hajipur and Akhuapada were all completed, while the combined office at Motihari was approaching completion. The combined office at Gaya and quarters for the Postmaster and the Head Signaller were in progress. Additions and alterations were carried out to the Telegraph Office and the Deputy Superintendent's quarters at Muzaffarpur, and the combined Post and Telegraph offices at Ranchi and Doranda.

Miscellaneous.

333. In connection with the Agricultural College and Research Institute at Pusa, the two bungalows for the European staff which were started last year were completed and considerable progress was made with the construction of four sets of quarters for the subordinate staff. Four blocks of clerks' quarters constructed departmentally by the Agricultural Department were taken on to the books of the Public Works Department and thoroughly repaired. The Rain-gauge and the Observatory shed in the Judge's Court compound at Gaya was removed to the compound of the Pilgrim Hospital and a *pukka* staging for anemometer and windvane was constructed for the Meterological Observatory at Netarhat.

The following buildings in connection with the Settlement Offices at Daltonganj were completed :—

(1) A temporary office shed,

(2) A permanent record-room,

(3) A permanent office building, and

(4) A residence for the Settlement Officer.

Provincial Works.

Court Buildings. Judges' Courts.

334. Certain additions and alterations were carried out to the first floor of the Civil Court at Cuttack, to adapt it for a Circuit Court. The Commissioner's Court at Ranchi was improved and a private room for the Commissioner was added. A start was made with the Sessions Court at Dumka and the extension of the Accountant's room of the Collectorate at Chapra. The Sessions Judge's Court and record-room at Monghyr was converted into a District Judge's Court and the old record-room of the District Judge's Court at Hazaribagh was converted into additional Courts and accommodation for the office. The Judge's Court at Purulia and the extension to the Civil Court at Sambalpur were completed. Additions and alterations were made in the Judge's Court at Arrah.

Magistrates' and Munsifs' Courts.

335. The Subdivisional Magistrate's Court building at Bettiah, the additional Court building for the second officer at Aurangabad, the extension to the Subdivisional Court and the Treasury Guards' quarters at Madhubani, and the Court buildings in the new subdivisional headquarters at Bargarh and Simdega, were all completed or approached completion. A start was made

on the work of adding a Malkhana and a Court room to the Subdivisional Court building at Kendrapara, of constructing an additional building for the Subdivisional Court at Phulbani, and a separate Court room with a verandah for the Subdivisional Officer at Giridih.

The single Munsifis at Bhadrak, Bargarh and Aurangabad were completed and the double Munsifi at Puri was well advanced.

336. The Circuit houses at Bhagalpur, Sambalpur and Dhanbad, which were started in the previous year, were finished and considerable progress was made with the Circuit house at Laheria-serai. **Circuit houses:**

337. The *ganja gola* and liquor godown at Bargarh were completed. The liquor warehouses at Ekma, Dighwara and Bahera, which were constructed departmentally by the Excise Department, were brought on to the books of the Public Works Department after thorough repairs. The liquor warehouses at Bahia, Gurhani, Koran Serai, Bikramaganj and Mohania, were improved and special repairs to those at Hilsa, Barh and Masaurhi were completed. **Buildings. Excise**

338. In the Central Jail at Hazaribagh improvements to the drainage and waterworks for the Jail and Reformatory School were finished. Special repairs were carried out to the Central Jail at Buxar. **Jails.**

At the Gaya Jail work was either completed or in progress upon (1) Forms Press building, (2) quarters for the Deputy Superintendent of the Jail Press, (3) separate Forms Store, (4) providing racks in the Forms block, (5) water-supply, (6) electric installation in the Jail Press, (7) main entrance gate, armoury and Jailer's quarters, and other minor improvements, while land was acquired for quarters for the Press employés.

Quarters were built for Sub-Assistant Surgeons at Arrah and Purulia. Work was finished on the Jail hospitals at Daltonganj and Ranchi, and the new sub-jails at Chatra, Giridih, Bargarh and Simdega were completed. A number of less important works were also carried out.

339. The barracks for the Town and Temple Police at Puri and for the Constables attached to the Police-stations at Balasore and Simdega, the double-storeyed barrack at Sambalpur, the Police buildings at Sakchi, the Police hospitals at Puri and Motihari, the Police Office at Sambalpur and a Photographer's room and a dark-room for the office of the Criminal Intelligence Department at Bankipore were completed. The Police lines at Chowliaganj were converted into a Constables' Training School, the old Opium buildings at Chapra into the Town and Mufassal Police-stations, and the old Hospital at Motihari into a barrack. Progress was made with the construction of an Infectious Diseases' Ward in the Police Hospital at Gaya. **Police.**

Quarters were built for the Inspectors of the Armed Police at Dhanbad, Sambalpur and Puri, for the Police Inspectors at Arraria, Banka and Thakurganj, for the European Sergeant of the Armed Police at Gaya, for the Bandmaster at Doranda, and for a number of subordinate officers. At Backerganj, certain Public Works Department buildings attached to the Police Lines were converted into quarters for Sub-Inspectors and a Club.

340. Considerable progress was made with the Dharma Samaj Sanskrit College at Muzaffarpur, and the Training College and School at Bankipore; and the play-fields and roads for the new educational buildings on the east side of the Patna College were finished. The Hindu and Muhammadan hostels of the Patna College were extended. **Education.**

The Collegiate School with the Manual Training Workshop at Patna City, the new Zila School with the hostel and the Training School with the Hostel Superintendent's quarters at Muzaffarpur, eight class rooms for the Northbrook School at Darbhanga, the Manual Training Workshop for the Ravenshaw Collegiate School at Cuttack, the extension of the Zila School at Purnea and of the old Zila School at Ranchi, the new building for the Zila School at Ranchi with subsidiary buildings and the Training School for Muhammadan Teachers with the hostel and the cook-shed at Supaul were completed. Considerable progress was made with the Zila schools at Chaibassa and Puri, and the drill

sheds at Gaya, Sambalpur, Puri and Chaibassa were completed. Blocks 8-1 to 8-4 and the Raja Bungalow in the Reformatory School at Hazaribagh were converted into open dormitories and segregation hospital, respectively, and materials were collected for a dairy and a cow-shed. The blacksmith's shop in the Industrial School at Ranchi was improved and provided with a collapsible entrance gate. The old District Jail buildings at Bhagalpur were converted into a Practising School. The office building with out-houses for the Inspector of Schools of the Chota Nagpur Division at Ranchi was completed. About 20 Guru Training Schools were constructed during the year.

Medical.

341. The following works in connection with the Asylum for European insanes at Kankey, in the district of Ranchi, were completed during the year :—

Two criminal blocks and quiet patients' blocks; hospitals for the male and female patients ; amusement blocks ; two kitchens ; gate buildings complete with iron gates; quarters for European Sergeants, female nursing staff, Assistant Surgeon, clerks, compounders, attendants and menials ; mortuary ; main stables ; and some minor offices and out-houses ; and a trial well was sunk in the bed of the Potpoto river.

The Tuberculosis wards in the Lunatic Asylum at Bankipore and in the Hospital at Ranchi, the dispensary buildings with quarters for the Medical Officer at Banpur, and the segregation ward for St. Joseph's Convent at Bankipore were all completed. Considerable progress was made with the extension of, and the construction of a new out-patients' ward in, the General Hospital at Bankipore. In the Medical School at Cuttack, the Clinical room was enlarged, some improvements were carried out to the Anatomical Department and good progress was made, with the work of adding a second storey over the lecture hall and constructing a hostel for female students. The Civil Surgeon's office at Laheria-serai was completed and a new detached building was built for a similar office at Daltonganj. One first class mortuary was built at Purulia, and third class mortuaries at Bani and Balandpara, respectively, while the second class mortuary at Laheria-serai was dismantled and rebuilt on another site.

Registration.

342. Thirteen new Sub-Registration offices were completed, and several others were under construction.

Monuments and antiquities.

343. Certain repairs were done to the Udayagiri and Khandgiri caves near Bhubaneshwar, Puri, and the work of removing the débris of the houses round Husain Sur Shah's Tomb at Sassaram was in progress.

Burial grounds.

344. The work of raising the level of the Moharampur Cemetery at Bankipore was taken up. In connection with the cemetery at Dhanbad, a lych gate, an approach road, and a compound wall were constructed. A combined shed for the chaukidar and hearse, a gateway and a pucca well were built in the cemetery at Daudnagar.

Residences for the Lieutenant-Governor.

345. Some minor improvements were carried out to Government House at Ranchi, the electric installation was improved, and a 6 feet diameter well was sunk for subordinate staff quarters in the compound. A tank was leased from the Ranchi Municipality and deepened by this Department for the garden water-supply to Government House. Casuarina trees were planted in the compound of Government House at Puri and a pathway of stone slabs round the main building and a 12 feet wide front drive were also made.

Residences for other Government officials.

346. Subdivisional Officers' residences at Bettiah, Dhanbad, Bargarh, Simdega and Chatra, and Second Officers' residences at Deogarh and Dhanbad were completed, besides twelve residences for Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors. Eight for Sub-Deputy Magistrates and fourteen for Munsifs, at various headquarters.

Residences of the Deputy Director of Agriculture of the Chota Nagpur Division, the Head master of the Collegiate School, Patna, the Head master of the Zila School and the Assistant Inspectress of Schools, Ranchi, the Superintendent of the Reformatory School at Hazaribagh, four Professors of the Patna College, and the Principal and a Professor of the Ravenshaw

College, Cuttack. The residences for the Superintendent of Police at Gaya, for the Principal and the Vice-Principal of the Training College at Bankipore and for the Munsif at Kendrapara were nearly finished and considerable progress was made with the construction of various other residences. A house belonging to the Mayurbhanj State was acquired for the residence of the Superintendent of Police at Chaibassa. At Puri accommodation for clerks and menials of the Chief Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor was completed and the annexe was provided with an electric installation.

Government buildings, Ranchi.

347. A flag staff with a Union Jack was provided for the Secretariat building at Doranda and a 5 feet diameter well was sunk for the use of the chaprasis attached to the Staff Quarters at Ranchi. Two rooms in the office of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bihar and Orissa, were converted into record-rooms and the Medical Library was extended. Certain additions and alterations were carried out to the residence of the Registrar of the Revenue Department and a 6 feet diameter well was sunk to serve this residence and the residence of the Registrar, Public Works Department. Another well of 7 feet diameter was sunk for the "A" type clerks' quarters, and blocks 6 and 7 and certain "B" type quarters were provided with pucca floors.

Works at the New Capital.

348. The High Court, including the Bar and the Pleaders' blocks with the necessary out-houses was finished and considerable progress was made with the construction of Government House and the Secretariat. Twelve sets of quarters were built for the Secretariat Indian Clerks at Amlatola, and four sets for Indian Personal Assistants, nine additional sets for European clerks, and, seventy-one sets for the High Court clerks. Barracks for 45 menials attached to the High Court, quarters for the Assistant and the Deputy Registrars of the High Court, two single-storeyed "C" type residences, the addition of a verandah to one of the double-storeyed "C" type residences, the erection of a power-house with the plant and overhead equipment in connection with the electric installation in the nine residences and one for the High Court, and the fitting of electric lights and fans in the offices of the Superintending Engineer and the Executive Engineer were all completed. The temporary Government House at Chhajjubagh was adapted for the residence of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and two new residences were built in the compound for two other Judges of the High Court. Fourteen wells were sunk in connection with the water-supply scheme and the brickwork of the water tower was finished. A considerable amount of work was taken in hand on the drainage and the lay-out of the Amlatola, but much still remains to be done. The work of converting certain opium buildings into Indian Bachelor Assistants' quarters and quarters for the Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent of the Press at Gulzarbagh was completed, while the conversion of the upper storey of the opium *malkhana* into the press office and the extension of the power-house and equipment in connection with the electric installation were in progress.

Agricultural buildings.

349. A fish pass on the anicut over the Mahanadi river at Cuttack was in course of construction. The erection of a wire-fencing round the compound of the Agricultural Farm at Kankey and the construction of roads and drains, which were started last year, were completed, and a weigh-bridge with the necessary shed was provided. The type quarters for the ministerial staff of the Agricultural College at Sabour and the roads, drains and laying out of pipe lines for water-supply to the clerks' quarters and the hospital were furnished.

Public Works Department buildings.

350. The construction of the engine-shed and godown at Ranchi was completed.

Miscellaneous.

351. The work of deepening the drinking water tank in the abandoned Cantonment at Cuttack was finished and the new market (Khasmahal) was approaching completion. The Government land at Hatma within the town of Ranchi was levelled and drained, and a new trenching-ground with roads, mehtars' shed and a well was provided at Hinu in the district of Ranchi.

Contribution.

352. The contribution of Rs. 15,600 made by the Maharani of Hathwa for the construction of a hostel for the Hindu students of the Patna College

was fully spent, and the Tirhut Agricultural Museum building at Muzaffarpur was well in advance, Rs. 10,720 being spent on the work.

The following works were completed :—

(1) The hostel and other buildings in connection with the Northbrook School at Darbhanga.

(2) Providing Minton tiles to the walls of the Surgical Ward of the General Hospital at Cuttack.

(3) Constructing an Engine and Battery room and Electric installation in the General Hospital at Cuttack.

(4) Constructing a hostel for the sons of zamindars and wards with out-houses and quarters for a Superintendent attached to the Zila School at Ranchi.

Statement of Expenditure.

353. A statement of expenditure incurred on Original Works—Civil Buildings, is given below :—

	Rs.
Administration	14,71,685
Monuments and antiquities	5,792
Educational	8,70,138
Ecclesiastical	6,091
Law and Justice	15,93,721
Jails	1,44,308
Police	2,75,804
Medical	7,47,752
Miscellaneous	3,24,833
Total ...	54,40,124

Communications.

Project for a through trunk road between Bihar and Orissa.

354. During the year under review the work of improving the existing roads forming a through trunk road between Bihar and Orissa was advanced. Approval was given to the adoption of a new alignment between Bankipore and Gaya via Khagole, Naubatpur and Jehanabad, as the first link in the through route, and the preparation of plans and estimates for improving the District Board roads between these places was taken in hand; while the improvement of the road surfaces of existing roads was continued. Good progress was also made on the strengthening of many existing culverts and minor bridges by the substitution of trough plates for timber floors. A number of new minor bridges were finished throughout the alignment. In addition to the completion of the regrading, soling and metalling of the Hissadih-Tebo section of the Ranchi-Chaibassa road, the Tebo-Nakti section was also improved. The improvements to the Chaibassa-Jaintigarh road, which were started at the end of the last year, were completed. The high level bridges over the Kanchi, the Harnai, the Tebo, the Lohargajudar, the Chellendari, the Jurisurgaon, the Nakti, the Karanj and the Bamni rivers on the Ranchi-Chaibassa road were all completed and opened to traffic during the year, while good progress was made on the bridge over the Baitarani river at the southern end of the trunk road.

Roads in the New Capital.

355. In Patna the roads in the Capital were completed and maintained in good order. The road leading to the High Court was oiled and land was acquired for the extension of the Dak Bungalow Road up to the Exhibition Road, and for the construction of a new road running northward from this extension to join the Fraser Road. The proposal for a road to link up the Patna-Gaya road with the compound of Chhajjubagh House, the residence of the Chief Justice and of two other Puisne Judges of the High Court at Patna, received

the administrative approval of the Local Government. For the convenience of wheeled traffic, a project for widening the metalled surface of the existing road between Bankipore and Dinapore was also approved, but had to be deferred for want of funds.

356. On ordinary works of communication, projects were taken up and carried out according to the needs of the various parts of the province and the urgency of the works. A good number of important schemes had to be kept in abeyance owing to the financial stringency caused by the war. **Other works of Communication.**

357. In Chota Nagpur, the work of improvement to the Chandwa-Kuru section of the Ranchi-Daltonganj road was commenced; the bridge over the Senha river on this length was also started and finished within the year. The reinforced concrete bridge over the Deonud river on the same road was practically completed, while that over the Mangaldaha was in progress. **Chota Nagpur.**

Approval was accorded to the construction of bridges over the Izri and Gowain rivers in the fifth and eleventh miles, respectively, of the Chas-Gulbera road. These bridges will afford bridged communication to the Jheria coal fields in the district of Manbhum.

The floor of the bridge over the Barakar river at Chirkunda in the 149th mile of the Grand Trunk road in the district of Manbhum was found to be badly corroded and to be in a dangerous state. A project for the re-decking of the floor was sanctioned and the work was taken in hand during the year.

358. In Orissa, the Jharsuguda-Bhosma road was metalled, while good progress was made with similar work on the Bargarh-Bolangir road and the 2nd section of the Raipur-Sambalpur road. **Orissa.**

The work of improvement to the second section of the Cuttack-Sambalpur road, second section, was nearly completed except for the construction of some bridges, while that to the third portion of the same section of this road and to the Angul-Tikerpara road from 8½ to 36th mile was also in progress.

The bridge over the Mālati river near Sambalpur on the Cuttack-Sambalpur road, and those on the Sambalpur-Sonpur road, were completed. Good progress was made with the construction of the bridge over the Salindi river on the Orissa Trunk road at Bhadrak.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

359. Some protective measures were undertaken during the year in order to prevent the encroachments of rivers. **Protective Works.**

The right bank of the river Ganges opposite the newly-purchased residence for the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, at Bankipore, and the Law College at the Patna City, was revetted.

A project was sanctioned for raising and strengthening the right bank of the Patna Canal from the 80th mile to Digha, for the protection of the country to the east of the Canal including the Civil Station of Bankipore, and the work was in progress. For a similar purpose an embankment and an approach road east of the East Indian Railway line near Poonpoon bridge were under construction.

Steps were taken for the protection of the town of Madhipura in the district of Bhagalpur from the encroachment of the Kosi river.

360. The work of improving the drainage of the Court compound at Bhadrak was nearly completed, and the construction of the embankment on the south side of the Sainthia road was continued. **Drainage.**

361. The License granted by the Local Government to Messrs. A. V. Gifkins & Co., to supply electrical energy in the existing towns of the Patna City, and Bankipore, as also in the area included in the Capital at Patna, was revoked, as the Company failed to perform the obligations imposed upon them by the License. **Electric supply.**

Railways.

Administration.

362. None of the railways in this province are entirely under the control of the Government of Bihar and Orissa, the main lines of railways being under the direct control and administration of the Government of India in the Railway Department (Railway Board). The following Light Railway lines of local importance are subject to a certain measure of control by the Government of Bihar and Orissa :—

	Gauge.	Mileage.
(1) Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway	2′—6″	65·26
(2) Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar „ „	2′—6″	33·00
(3) Dehri-Rohtas „ „	2′—6″	23·83
		122·09

Additions to Mileage.

363. During the year under report 66·75 miles of new Railway lines were opened to traffic as under :—

Standard gauge (5′—6″).

Bengal-Nagpur Railway—

Bokharo-Ramgarh Extension—

	Miles.
Chandrapura to Bermo in the district of Hazaribagh ...	11·50

Metre gauge (3′—3⅜″.)

Tirhut Railway—

Khagaria-Samastipur Extension—

Hasanpur Section—

Rosera Ghat to Hasanpur road (Darbhanga District) ...	10·50

Hasanpur Road—Khagaria Section—

Hasanpur Road to Khagaria (Darbhanga and Monghyr Districts). ...	25·00

2′—0″ *gauge.*

Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway Extension—

Kissengunge Extension (Purnea District)—

Islampur-Aluabari to Golgalia	19·75
	66·75

Total mileage.

364. With these additions the total mileage open on 31st March 1916 was as follows :—

	Miles.
Standard gauge	1,692·30
Metre „	1,178·66
2′—6″ „	269·31
2′—0″ „	39·00
	3,179·27

Lines sanctioned for construction.

365. The construction by the Fatwa-Islampur Light Railway Company, Limited, of a branch line of railway on the 2′—6″ gauge from Fatwa, a station on the East Indian Railway, to Islampur, a distance of about 27 miles, was sanctioned by the Railway Board during the year.

Surveys sanctioned.

366. Authority was given by the Railway Board to undertake the following surveys during the year under review :—

(1) To the Eastern Bengal Railway for a reconnaissance survey for a line of railway on the metre gauge from Barsoi, a station on the Katihar-Parbatipur Section of the Eastern Bengal Railway to Harishchandrapur, a station on the Katihar-Godagari Section of the same railway, a distance of about 16 miles.

(2) To Messrs. Martin & Co. of Calcutta for a detailed survey for a line of railway on the 2′—6″ gauge from Jagatpur on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway to Kendrapara, a distance of 33·5 miles.

(3) To Messrs. W. A. Lee & Co. of Calcutta for a detailed survey for a branch line of railway on the 2′—6″ gauge from Chakradharpur to Jaintgarh, via Chaibassa, a distance of about 54 miles.

367. There were no serious accidents on any of the Light Railways under the partial control of the Local Government. On the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway there were six instances of derailments resulting in a slight interruption of traffic, and one case in which the removal of a coupling pin caused the brake van and rear wagon to part from the body of a train. On three occasions trespassers were run over and killed. **Accidents.**

Canals—Irrigation and Navigation.

[Administration Report of Irrigation Works for the year 1915-16.—Statistics of British India, Part III.—Commercial Services.]

368. During 1915-16 the total expenditure on the maintenance of Irrigation and Navigation works amounted to Rs. 16,71,209 as against Rs. 15,63,410 and the total receipts to Rs. 27,18,959 as against Rs. 24,54,981 in the preceding year. The expenditure on Capital Account, i.e., on original works was Rs. 67,949 against Rs. 2,48,552. **Expenditure.**

369. The areas irrigated by the principal canals were as follows :— **Areas irrigated.**

	1915-16	1914-15
1	2	3
Major Works (Productive)—		
Orissa Canals	276,264	282,564
Sone Canals	539,683	625,852
Total ..	815,947	908,416
Major Works (Protective)—		
Dhaka Canals	6,692	11,330
Tribeni Canal	54,090	76,138
Total ...	60,782	87,468

370. The lengths of the chief canals were :— **Length of Canals.**

	Main Canals.	Branch Canals.	Distributaries.
1	2	3	4
Orissa Canals	223¾	103	1,286⅞
Sone Canals	218½	148¾	1,234½
Tribeni Canal	61¼	...	160·63
Dhaka Canal	3⅕	15⅗	23 11/20

There was no change in the length of the Dhaka and Sone Canals, with their branches and distributaries, but there was an increase of nearly 13 miles in the distributaries of the Orissa Canals and of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles in the main channel, and five miles in the distributaries, of the Tribeni Canal as against last year.

Navigation.

371. The Sone Canals are navigable throughout and the Orissa Canals for all but about 19 miles of their length.

The following statement shows the traffic on the Navigable Canals during 1915-16 as compared with the average of the preceding three years from 1912-13 to 1914-15 :—

	Orissa Canals.		Sone Canals.	
	Average for the triennium ending with March 1915.	For the year 1915-16.	Average for the triennium ending with March 1915.	For the year 1915-16.
	2	3	4	5
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Length of canal open ...	$204\frac{3}{4}$	$204\frac{3}{4}$	$218\frac{1}{2}$	$218\frac{1}{2}$
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	69,619	69,253	22,958	16,900
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Tonnage of boats by canal measurement.	381,463	403,972	50,373	40,371
Estimated weight of cargo exclusive of rafts.	144,746	141,419	19,215	14,359
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Estimated value of goods ...	1,24,81,516	1,05,96,167	13,70,773	8,39,549
Estimated value of rafts ...	4,40,970	3,13,611	3,59,085	3,26,608

Protective Irrigation Works.

372. The works comprised in this class are the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals for which projects were sanctioned in the year 1900-1. Both these canals have been completed and are in operation. They are intended only for irrigation and do not admit of navigation.

Tribeni Canal.

373. The construction estimate of the Tribeni Canal was closed on the 31st March 1914. A schedule of sanctioned works, which were either incomplete or not begun on the 1st April 1914, was sanctioned by the Government of India in the year under review. The date for the completion of these works has been fixed at the 31st March 1920.

Dhaka Canal.

374. The construction estimate of the Dhaka Canal was closed on the 31st March 1908. A schedule of sanctioned works, which were either incomplete or not begun on the 1st April 1908, was sanctioned by the Government of India in 1909. The date for the completion of these works, originally fixed at the 31st March 1910, was subsequently extended to the 31st March 1912 and again to the 31st March 1913 and finally to the 31st March 1914 when the schedule was closed.

Major Works.

375. In these are included the Orissa and the Sone Irrigation Canals which are, however, constructed for navigation as well as irrigation. The original Capital Accounts have been closed, and all present capital outlay is charged against the head " 43—Minor Works and Navigation ". The Revenue Account

is shown under the head "42—Major Works—Working Expenses". Both these heads are now equally divided between Imperial and Provincial.

ORISSA CANALS.

376. The transactions in the various Circles of superintendence may be briefly stated as follows: The expenditure (direct charges) debited to the Capital Account of the Orissa Canals during the year was Rs. 7,775. The Capital expenditure of the year was chiefly incurred on constructing minor distributaries on the Gobri, Jajpur, Pattamundi and High Level Canals, of which the first two were completed. The extension of another from the High Level Canal was well advanced, and the work of widening and raising the crest of the right bank of the Jajpur Canal from Malandapara to Bara Kharsua left embankment, and the raising of that embankment to three feet above the high level of 1907 was finished. During the year nearly 13 miles of minor distributary channels were added.

377. The average rainfall of the year at the thirteen recording stations on the Orissa Canals was 65·30 inches against 66·82 inches in 1914-15, and 64·80 inches in 1913-14. The fall was normal but was not well distributed. In July it was much less than the normal and was short towards the end of August and beginning of September. Good rain fell in the second half of September and in October, but the rain in November was abnormally heavy and did a good deal of damage to the *rabi* crops and some also to the rice. **Rainfall.**

378. The area irrigated during the year was 276,264 acres against 282,564 acres in the preceding year, the decrease being both in the *kharif* and *rabi* areas. The falling off in the area irrigated is fully accounted for by the character of the rainfall. The amount assessed for water-rates during the year was Rs. 4,51,478 against Rs. 4,42,117 of the previous year. Practically the whole of the demand for 1915-16 was collected within the year. **Irrigation.**

379. The receipts from navigation tolls on the Orissa Canals were Rs. 69,253 against Rs. 69,906 in the previous year, and Rs. 70,841, the average of the preceding five years. The decrease in the year under review was due mainly to the cessation of exports on account of the war, and partly to concession rates allowed to the daily steamer service from Cuttack to Kendrapara. The daily steamer service carried goods which formerly used to be carried by country boats. **Navigation receipts.**

380. The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) during the year were Rs. 5,69,265 and Rs. 5,11,079, respectively, against Rs. 5,43,507 and Rs. 5,95,296 of the previous year, the result being a net revenue of Rs. 58,186 against the deficit of Rs. 51,789 of the preceding year. **Financial results.**

The increase in the net revenue is due partly to increased receipts and partly to decreased expenditure on maintenance.

381. There were no severe storms or high floods during the year. **Floods.**

SONE CANALS.

382. A minor distributary in the Basawan Subdivision of the Buxar Division was completed at an expenditure of Rs. 3,910, while Rs. 2,075, out of an estimate for Rs. 3,945, were spent on constructing another from the Kochus Distributary of the Chausa Branch Canal.

383. The average rainfall of the twelve stations, in the three divisions, was 37·21 inches compared with the averages of 52·11 inches and 35·82 inches in the years 1913-14 and 1914-15 and the average of 41·76 inches of the previous 20 years. There was fair rainfall at the end of the *hathia* which was of great help in maturing the crops. The rainfall of the year was evenly distributed and was beneficial. **Rainfall.**

384. The area irrigated during the year was 539,683 acres against 625,852 acres in the preceding year. The *kharif* and hot weather area was 2,114 acres below the average area of the previous four years. The *rabi* area was 37,007 acres below the average of the same period, owing to the character of the rainfall. The *rabi* areas of the years 1912-13 and 1914-15 were, however, extraordinarily high. **Irrigation.**

The demand for water-rates falling due during the year amounted to Rs. 19,18,406 against Rs. 16,28,124 of the preceding year. The increase is

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

due to the fact that the area of *rabi* irrigated during 1914-15 (the collections for which were made in 1915-16) was considerably in excess of that of the previous year, 1913-14, and to increased water-rates for the *kharif* and hot weather areas. The amounts assessed were collected in full before the end of the year.

Navigation receipts.

385. The navigation receipts were Rs. 16,900 against Rs. 21,041 of the previous year and an average of Rs. 22,295 of the previous five years. The falling off in the receipts is due to a reduction in the export of grains and miscellaneous goods.

Financial results.

386. The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 20,07,225 and Rs. 8,08,703 against Rs. 17,30,006 and Rs. 7,36,565, respectively, of the previous year, giving a net revenue of Rs. 11,98,522 against Rs. 9,93,441 in 1914-15.

Floods.

387. There were no very high floods during the year, but the floods that occurred were of rather longer duration than usual and on more than one occasion the canal had to be reopened at a high river level.

Karamnasa Irrigation scheme.

388. Surveys in connexion with the scheme for irrigating rice lands in the Bhabhua Subdivision of the Shahabad District from the Karamnasa river in the Benares State were completed during the year.

TRIBENI CANAL.

389. The expenditure (direct charges) debited to the Capital Account of the Tribeni Canal during the year amounted to Rs. 47,595. The full length of the main canal, viz., 61¼ miles, has now been excavated and the canal was opened for irrigation throughout in the year under review. Of the principal masonry works, two culverts at the tail end of the weir were completed, and progress was made on the construction of the new Rohua culvert. Surveys for the project for extending the Tribeni Canal were commenced during the year.

Distributaries and village channels.

390. All the distributaries of the canal have been completed with the exception of the Rangi and Deulia which were in progress in the year under report. On the former, however, only preliminary work was done, as the actual construction has been postponed.

There are at present no village channels on the Tribeni Canal. It was hoped that the villagers would come forward to construct their own channels, but this expectation has not been fulfilled, nor in such a purely rice-growing area is it ever likely to be fulfilled. It has therefore been decided to construct all the absolutely necessary village channels on one distributary at Government expense as an experiment, in order to save water and permit of dividing the area into proper blocks for developing the long lease system.

Rainfall.

391. The rainfall was normal for the first month of the season, but far in excess of normal during the months of July, August, September and October. The total rainfall for the year was 108·54 inches at Ramnagar and 78·54 inches at Maniari, against 59·09 inches and 58·41 inches, the average of the last three years.

Floods.

392. The year under report was remarkable for the severity of its floods. The Gandak river rose on the 12th August 1915 to 974·80 which is the second highest on record, against the highest record flood of 977·95 of the 12th August 1902. There were also three heavy floods in the streams crossing the Tribeni Canal, viz., the first in August, the second in September and the third (by far the greatest) in October. The August flood breached both the canal banks in the 13th mile, washed away the Balua inlet and caused the Khunti syphon to collapse. The September floods again breached the newly made banks in the 13th mile and at Khunti; while the floods that came down during October caused extensive damage to the canal banks and to some of the distributaries. Except the Karuna aqueduct, however, no additional masonry works were injured.

Irrigation.

393. The total area irrigated during the year was 54,090 acres against 76,138 acres in the preceding year, and an average of 48,066 acres of the preceding three years. Considering the heavy rainfall of the year the demand for

canal water was good. There was, however, no demand for water after the *kharif* season there being sufficient moisture in the ground.

394. The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) during the year were Rs. 1,17,528 and Rs. 2,86,060 respectively, against Rs. 1,40,233 and Rs. 1,68,280 of the previous year the result being a net deficit of Rs. 1,68,532 against the deficit of Rs. 28,047 of the preceding year. The increase in the working expenses is due to heavy expenditure on flood damage repairs and on silt clearance of the canal. The water-rates were realized as usual by the establishment maintained under the Collector, but paid for by the Public Works Department. **Financial result.**

DHAKA CANAL.

395. No expenditure under capital outlay was incurred on this canal during the year under review.

396. The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) of the canal were Rs. 15,543 and Rs. 19,395 respectively, against Rs. 21,537 and Rs. 17,592 in the preceding year, giving a net deficit of Rs. 3,852 against a net revenue of Rs. 3,945. The decrease in revenue is due to diminution of the irrigated areas. **Financial results.**

397. The total rainfall for the year amounted to 60·44 inches against 58·30 inches of the previous year, but of this no less than 17·53 inches fell during six consecutive days of August affecting the area under lease. **Rainfall.**

398. The floods in the river Lalbakia were very high, the highest readings recorded being 106·61 on the up-stream side and 105·77 on the down-stream side of the weir on the 11th August 1915, against 106·70 respectively of the 12th August 1902. With the exception of two small breaches in the marginal and frontier bunds no damage occurred. **Floods.**

399. The total area irrigated from the Dhaka Canal was 6,692 acres against 11,330 acres in the preceding year. The decrease was due to the area under indigo having considerably increased. This crop does not require water in the *kharif* season. As the area under irrigation was widely distributed in small patches on indigo, certain blocks could not be irrigated. **Irrigation.**

The supply in the river was at all times sufficient for irrigation purposes. The water-rates of the Dhaka Canal, as in the case of the Tribeni Canal, were realized by the establishment maintained under the Collector and paid for by the Public Works Department.

Minor Works and Navigation.

400. Of the Orissa Coast Canal nine miles of Range III, Ranges IV-A, IV-B, and V, including portions of the rivers Subarnarekha, Panchpara, Burrabalong and Matai, a total length of 95½ miles, lie in the province of Bihar and Orissa. **Orissa Coast Canal.**

The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 5,129 and Rs. 42,394 against Rs. 4,408 and Rs. 26,537, respectively, in 1914-15. The increase in the working expenses was due to more dredging having to be done to the canal than in the preceding year.

There were no high floods in the rivers crossed by the Canal. The rainfall was below normal and not well distributed.

401. The Saran Canals are 19 miles in length, and have remained closed practically since 1894. A proposal to abandon the canals altogether is under consideration. **Saran Canals.**

There was no capital outlay on the canals in the year under review. The maintenance charges (direct and indirect) amounted to Rs. 1,165 against Rs. 3,068 in the preceding year. The revenue derived amounted to Rs. 1,131 against Rs. 1,991 of the previous year.

402. The Teur Canal is 6·18 miles in length with one distributary (Lakhaura) 6·13 miles long. **Teur-Madhuban Canal.**

The canal was maintained in the year under review at a total cost of Rs. 1,780, exclusive of establishment charges, against Rs. 1,788 of the previous year. No original works were carried out during the year.

The total area irrigated during the year, inclusive of the *zirat* land of the Madhuban Zamindar, which was irrigated free of charge, was 1,693 acres against 1,936 acres in the preceding year.

The *kharif* area irrigated was slightly below that of the preceding year, but in view of the rainfall in August and a timely fall of 5·55 inches in June this is not unsatisfactory. The supply in the river was at all times satisfactory and ample to meet the demand.

NOTE.—Neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept for the Teur-Madhuban Canal. It is the only work of this class.

Kiul river Scheme.

403. During the year under review surveys were undertaken for a scheme for the irrigation of thanas Jamui, Sikandra and Sheikhpura in the Monghyr district by storing the water of Kiul river by means of a dam near Fatehpur.

Embankment and Drainage.

[The Embankment and Drainage Reports for the year 1915-16.]

Classification of Embankments.

404. The Embankments are divided into four classes :—

A.—Embankments maintained by Government in Orissa.

B.—Schedule D and other Government Embankments.

C.—Embankments maintained by Government under contract with Zamindars.

D.—Embankments maintained by Government with an annual apportionment of charges on estates benefited.

Expenditure.

405. The expenditure on works and repairs during the year (exclusive of the book charges of establishment and tools and plant) amounted to Rs. 1,25,110* against Rs. 1,65,057 in the preceding year.

Length of Embankments.

406. The total length of embankments of all classes maintained by Government in the province was 818† miles and 537 feet protecting an area of 7,610·29 square miles. The Tirhut Embankment in the Gandak Circle was increased by 2 miles and 1,056 feet and shortened by 1,214 feet by the construction of the Phular retired line and the retired line at 16½ to 19 miles respectively.

Floods.

407. In the Orissa Circle there were no very high floods in any of the rivers during the year. It was only in the Burrabalong that the floods were above the normal.

In the Gandak Circle the floods were abnormally high in all the rivers which at some stations rose nearly to the highest flood level previously recorded. The river Gandak rose to 243·10 on the 14th August in the Sota at Bhawanipur and to 242·00 at Siswa head sluice, or only 0·40 below the record (1903). The river Bur Gandak was only 0·35 inch lower at Sikandarpur Maidan than the record flood of 1910. The floods in the lower part of the Ganges were also very high, the gauge at Chakaur on the Gupta Bandh recording 137·53, which exceeds the previous record of 1911 by ·60 feet. At Bazitpur, however, the river rose to 144·00 only against 147·74 of 1879, the highest flood on record, and at Patna there was no noticeably high flood.

Breaches.

408. In the Orissa Circle a few breaches occurred in the Puri District, viz., one breach of 300 feet in length in the retired line of the Daib right embankment No. 2B; a small breach in the Chilka Lake embankment and another in the Sarlek embankment; two small breaches in the Kanjaridhar left embankment, and another in the Nayanadi embankment.

* This does not include Rs. 7,020 spent on the work of raising the Bankipore-Dinapore Road.

† Exclusive of 3 miles 3,171 feet of the Bankipore-Dinapore Road which has been declared as a schedule D Embankment in Bihar and Orissa Government Notification No. 14411-I, dated the 1st August 1914, and which gives protection to an area of 16 square miles.

In the Gandak Circle no breaches of any size occurred in any of the embankments, with the exception of the following :—

About 150 feet of the Ahirali Charki on the Saran Embankment was washed away; this however leaves the main embankment uninjured.

The old breaches in miles 12th, 14th and 18th of the Gupta Bandh were increased by 1,444 feet, 2,112 feet and 214 feet respectively.

A portion of the Tirhut Embankment about 150 feet in length in mile 18½ was washed away; and the retired line recently completed behind this was also breached. A portion of the Malahia retired line on the Champaran Embankment was damaged by the flood water flowing down a *Nasi* and scouring the bund. A small amount of damage to crops was caused by these breaches but none to life.

Surveys and Investigations.

409. In the Orissa Circle investigations in respect of the construction of a sluice in the 5th mile of the Bhograi Embankment No. 1B for drainage purposes were completed. Surveys were made in connection with the preparation of an estimate for a retired line on the threatened portion of the Sukh Paika left Embankment No. 74-B.

In the Gandak Circle surveys were made for two ringbunds in miles 25 and 26 of the Tirhut Embankment, and in connection with the Majharia retired line in the Champaran Embankment. A survey was also made for a new retired line of the Gupta Bandh.

Original works.

410. In the Orissa Circle the outlay on original works during the year was Rs. 8,286 against Rs. 15,657 in the preceding year. The amount was chiefly incurred in connection with the raising of the crest of the Utikan Embankment and of the escape at Achutpur on the fifth mile of the Bhargovi Embankment, the raising of the Katjuri flood embankment two feet above high flood level, and constructing an embankment connecting the high ground of Kantilo village near the temple of Nilmadhab.

Repairs.

411. The total amount expended on repairs was Rs. 1,16,824 against Rs. 1,49,400 in the preceding year. Of this amount the sum of Rs. 40,227 was spent in the Orissa Circle, Rs. 74,842 in the Gandak Circle and Rs. 1,755 in the Eastern Circle.

The amount spent on ordinary maintenance and special repairs of the Gandak Takavi Embankments under contract fell from Rs. 63,752 in the preceding year to Rs. 47,291 in the year under report.

In the Daudpur Embankment in Muzaffarpur the wire mattresses put up in the previous year having slipped a good deal, it was decided after the damage of 1915 to protect the embankment by concrete blocks tied together with wire, by the making of one inlet and one outlet, and by some spur works. The work was nearly completed when the year closed.

Drainages.

412. In the Eastern Circle three drainage channels for draining the new Capital have been completed and certain culverts on the Bankipore-Dinapore Road provided with shutters to protect the new Capital area against the Ganges floods. The private sluices at Kurji and Rajapur were also removed under the provisions of the Embankment Act.

In the Gandak Circle materials were collected for the construction of a sluice at Deosar in the third mile of the Tirhut Embankment for draining off the Sarother Chaur water. Also a project estimated to cost Rs. 5,374 for constructing an embankment and a sluice to prevent the flood water from entering the Penbranda Chaur in the Darbhanga district was sanctioned.

There are no drainage works in the province constructed under the Bengal Drainage, Sanitary Drainage or Embankment Acts, excepting a small scheme known as the Rajmahal drainage scheme completed in 1902 and maintained by the Civil officers under the Bengal Drainage Act, VI of 1880.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Imperial Revenue and Finance.

Imperial Receipts and Expenditure.

413. The following statement shows the Imperial revenue and expenditure for the year 1915-16 as compared with those of 1914-15 :—

RECEIPTS.

(*Figures in thousands of rupees.*)

Heads.	1914-15	1915-16	Actuals, 1915-16 better (+) or worse (—) than actuals, 1914-15.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Land Revenue	70,04	72,48	+2,44
II. Opium	3,86	3,32	—54
III. Salt	1	1	...
IV. Stamps	34,02	33,49	—53
V. Excise	28,98	27,43	—1,55
VII. Customs	23	1	—22
VIII. Income-tax	7,12	7,14	+2
XI. Tributes	85	85	...
XII. Interest	6	1	—5
XXII. Receipts in aid of superannuation ...	89	87	—2
XXIII. Stationery and Printing	1	...	—1
XXV. Miscellaneous	15	13	—2
XXIX. Irrigation—Major Works—Direct receipts	12,23	13,60	+1,37
XXX. Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—			
(1) By Civil Department	26	26	...
(2) By Public Works Department ...	11	8	—3
XXXI. Civil Works	25	28	+3
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial revenues.	—37,52	—56,77	—19,25
Total Receipts ...	1,21,55	1,03,19	—18,36

EXPENDITURE.

(*Figures in thousands of rupees.*)

Heads.	1914-15	1915-16	Actuals, 1915-16 better (+) worse (—) than actuals, 1914-15.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Refunds and Drawbacks	46	44	+2
2. Assignment and Compensation ...	51	51	+3
3. Land Revenue	10,95	10,07	+88
5. Salt	72	75	—3
6. Stamps	1.10	89	+21
7. Excise	1,41	1,46	—5
9. Customs	16	17	—1
10 Income-tax	23	23	...
14. Interest on other obligations	83	95	—12
18. General administration	2,65	2,65	...
23. Ecclesiastical	33	35	—2
27. Territorial and political pensions ...	31	70	—39
28. Civil Furlough and absentee allowances ...	1	2	—1
29. Superannuation allowances and pensions ...	3	2	+1
30. Stationery and Printing	15	13	+2
32. Miscellaneous	14	30	—16
33. Famine Relief	...	75	—75
35. Protective Irrigation Works	1,72	63	+109
42. Irrigation Major Works—Working expenses	7,10	7,59	—49
43. Irrigation Major Works—Interest on debts	11,96	11,91	+5
45. Minor Works and Navigation—			
(1) By Civil Department	3	2	+1
(2) By Public Works Department ...	1,67	1,40	+27
45. Civil Works—Public Works Department ...	3,94	4,94	—100
Total Expenditure ...	46,44	46,88	—44

Receipts.—The net decrease of 18,36 as compared with the actuals for 1914-15, was mainly due to decrease in receipts under opium, stamps, excise, customs, and to larger subventions from Imperial and Provincial revenues. The drop in opium revenue resulted from smaller consumption owing to increase in the treasury price of opium and to high prices of food-grains ; and also to restrictions on the issues to retail shops in certain districts. For the heavy drop in customs revenue the cessation of the export trade from the ports in Orissa was responsible. There was, however, an increase under Land Revenue owing to larger recoveries of survey and settlement charges, and also under Irrigation—Major Works, as a result of an increased demand for water for irrigating *rabi* crops.

Expenditure.—As compared with 1914-15, there was a net increase of 44 only. This was due to larger expenditure under " Interest on other obligations ", Territorial and Political Pensions, Miscellaneous, Irrigation—Major Works and Civil Works, and also to the cost of famine relief works which were started for the first time since the creation of the province. The increase under the above heads was partly counterbalanced by short expenditure under Land Revenue, Stamps, Protective Irrigation Works, and Minor Works and Navigation, by the Public Works Department.

Land Revenue.

[*See* Chapter II of the Report.]

Canal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of the Report—Canals.]

Sources of Revenue other than land.

Customs.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1915-16.—Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*), Finance and Revenue.]

Customs Revenue.

414. The revenue realized during the year amounted to Rs. 35,840 only against Rs. 1,11,959 in 1914-15. No refunds were granted. For this marked decrease, continuing the decline of the previous year, the war is responsible. The fall in the receipts from duty on bonded salt (Rs. 34,846 against Rs. 89,092 of the preceding year) was due to the fact that some of the local merchants of the Cuttack district ceased to purchase salt from the warehouses at Chandbali and imported direct from Calcutta. Moreover, some leading merchants imported from Cuttack the cheap Ganjam salt known as *Karkach* which, on account of its lower price, was appreciated by the poorer classes.

Breach of Customs Laws.

415. In Balasore there were nine prosecutions for plying boats without a license against six in the preceding year. A sum of Rs. 13 was realized in fines.

Indian Merchandise Marks Act.

416. No proceedings were taken under the Act in any of the districts of the province during the year under review.

Salt.

Imports.

417. As in previous years, there was no direct importation of salt from foreign countries into any of the ports in this province. There are only two bonded warehouses, both at Chandbali in the district of Balasore, and both owned by Messrs. Turner, Morrison and Company. Foreign salt is imported into these warehouses from the Calcutta salt *golas*. The total quantity of salt imported was 36,000 maunds as compared with 81,986 maunds in 1914-15 and 108,000 maunds in 1913-14. The total imports fell short of those in 1914-15 by

45,986 maunds and of the quantity imported in 1913-14 by 72,000 maunds. The heavy decrease in imports is due chiefly to lack of ocean steamers and shortage of imports from Europe on account of the war.

418. The quantity of salt consumed in Cuttack, Balasore, Angul and Puri and in the Feudatory States that take their supplies of salt from these districts was 1,160,192 maunds against 1,070,167 maunds in the previous year. There was a decrease of 52,844 maunds in the consumption of foreign salt which was due to the rise in its retail price owing to a limited supply on account of the war, and was more than compensated for by increased consumption of Madras salt. The average consumption per head was higher by 8 chitaks than in 1914-15. Figures for other portions of the province are not available. **Consumption and Prices.**

Liverpool salt was sold at Chandbali in Balasore at rates varying from Rs. 4-5-6 to Rs. 5-11-6 for a bag of two maunds during the year against Rs. 4-5-0 to Rs. 5-11-6 in the previous year.

419. The total number of offences against the Salt Laws reported during 1915-16 was 299 against 79 in the previous year. The increase in crime is attributed to the rise in retail prices of salt and of food-stuffs generally, and to the temporary withdrawal of the salt staff from their ordinary work to help in patrolling the Orissa coast. The great majority of the cases were detected immediately after the return of the salt staff from their special duty, when they came upon the people almost unawares. Out of the 299 cases reported, 40 remained undetected and in 133 others the accused were dealt with departmentally, and let off with warnings. The remaining 126 cases were sent up for trial ; 104 of these, as well as the 15 cases pending from 1914-15, were disposed of during the year under review. 118 cases ended in conviction, and one, from Balasore, ended in acquittal. 22 cases were still pending with the Magistrates at the close of the year. The number of cases in which salt or salt earth was seized was 177 against 47 in the previous year ; the quantity of salt seized was 20 maunds against 2 maunds in the previous year. There were two cases of unsuccessful house searches against 7 in the previous year. **Preventive Measures.**

420. As in previous years, duty on salt imported under bond from Calcutta into the warehouses at Chandbali in Balasore was credited in Calcutta under the head "Customs Duty on Salt". Similarly duty on Madras salt imported into Orissa was paid in Madras. There were, therefore, no realizations in this province on account of duty on salt, and the only receipts were on account of sale-proceeds of old stores and materials, Rs. 176, and miscellaneous, Rs. 1,080. The expenditure in the Salt Department as furnished by the District Officers amounted to Rs. 65,958 against Rs. 72,512 in the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 6,554. **Receipts and Charges.**

421. The number of saltpetre refineries in Bihar was 213 against 205 in the previous year. The total quantity of crude saltpetre dissolved was 334,897 maunds and that of refined saltpetre produced was 232,871 maunds, against 338,827 maunds and 222,123 maunds, respectively, in the previous year. The quantity of salt educed in the manufacture and refinement of saltpetre was 28,854 maunds, out of which 21,399 maunds were removed on payment of duty ; the corresponding figures for 1914-15 had been 24,885 maunds and 20,075 maunds, respectively. **Trade in Saltpetre.**

Excise.

[Report on the administration of the Excise Department, Bihar and Orissa, for 1915-16.]

422. The principal administrative changes which took place during the year were :—(1) Further extension of the arrangements for consulting members of Excise Advisory Committees, which are henceforth to meet twice in December before the submission of settlement proposals, and again six months later for discussions with District Officers on general matters of policy concerning Excise ; (2) enhancement of the rates of duty on *ganja* in all districts except Shahabad, Saran and Champaran ; (3) increase of the Treasury price of opium in all districts except Angul ; (4) reduction in the limit of private possession **Administrative changes.**

of smoking preparations of opium from one tola to half a tola for individuals, and from five tolas to two and a half tolas for parties of five or more persons; (5) general prohibition of transmission by the inland post of cocaine and allied drugs and of preparations of opium; (6) establishment of a zone free from all classes of Excise shops, other than *tari* shops, two miles wide on either side of the Nepal border, and finally (7) partial effect was given to the scheme for the reorganization of the Excise Department by the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner of Excise (jointly for this province and the Central Provinces) and certain minor changes in the subordinate establishment.

Local Advisory Committees.

423. Local Advisory Committees were formed in December 1915 on the same lines as in the previous year to advise Collectors on the settlement proposals for 1916-17. In deference to their recommendations, four *tari* shops, one country liquor shop, one imported liquor shop and one outstill were abolished and the sites of ten *tari* shops, eleven distillery liquor shops, one *pachwai* shop and seven outstills were changed. Under orders contained in Government order No. 1971-F., dated the 11th February 1915, the Advisory Committees of the preceding year were reinvited to meet in July to discuss on general matters of policy concerning Excise. The following were among the most important subjects discussed at the meetings :—(i) Curtailment of hours of sale in liquor and *tari* shops; (ii) possibility of further reduction in the number of licenses in Municipal areas; (iii) temperance teaching in schools; (iv) enhancement of the term of sentence in cocaine cases; (v) fixing of retail prices of *ganja* and opium; (vi) reduction in limit of private possession of country spirit in Sambalpur; (vii) abolition of *pachwai* shops in Santal Parganas; (viii) enhancement of Treasury price of opium in Angul; (ix) extension of the functions of Advisory Committees in rural areas.

Results of settlement.

424. The fall of over three and a half lakhs of rupees in the total amount of settlement was due mainly to the reduced consumption of excisable articles during the year to increases in the Treasury prices of opium in Orissa, and to the anticipated enhancement of the duty on *ganja* in Shahabad, Saran and Champaran, notified to take effect from 1st April 1916.

Revenue.

425. The Excise revenue of the year amounted, in round figures, to nearly 110 lakhs of rupees, against 116 lakhs of rupees in 1914-15. The decrease occurred under every head of Excise except opium. Country spirit, *ganja*, *tari* and opium account for 47·2 per cent., 23·0 per cent., 12·7 per cent., and 14·5 per cent., respectively, of the total revenue of the year. The incidence of excise was five annas one pie per head of the population against five annas four pies in the preceding year.

Country spirit.

426. The total revenue under the contract supply system amounted to Rs. 39,51,302 against Rs. 44,83,570 in the previous year, while the revenue from outstills amounted to Rs. 12,36,606 against Rs. 13,64,451. There was a fall in consumption amounting to 171,003 gallons or 15·9 per cent. of the previous year's consumption. The decrease was shared by all the districts except Cuttack, Puri and Sambalpur. The number of licenses for the retail of country spirit (contract and outstill) was reduced from 2,005 in 1914-15 to 1,965.

Revision of rates of duty.

427. The rates of duty on country spirit during the year under report remained unchanged.

Maximum and minimum prices.

428. The experiment, commenced from 1st April 1914, of leaving retail prices unrestricted in the whole of Saran District and in the Sadr, Banka and Madhipura Subdivisions of Bhagalpur continued during the year under review.

Tari.

429. The revenue derived from *tari* amounted to Rs. 13,98,475 against Rs. 14,07,691 in the preceding year. The number of licenses for retail sale of fermented *tari* was 6,345 as against 6,710 in 1914-15.

Pachwai.

430. License fees for the retail sale and home-brewing of *pachwai* brought in only Rs. 1,45,427 in 1915-16 against Rs. 1,52,617 in 1914-15. The total number of licenses issued for retail sale of *pachwai* was 334 against 353 in 1914-15.

431. Foreign liquors do not play an important part in the Excise Administration of Bihar and Orissa. The revenue from license fees in 1915-16 amounted to Rs. 32,856 as against Rs. 35,414 in 1914-15. **Foreign liquors.**

432. There was a decrease of 387 maunds in the quantity of *ganja* consumed in the province during the year accompanied by a decrease in revenue from Rs. 25,82,871 in 1914-15 to Rs. 25,28,765 in 1915-16. The decrease in consumption was due mainly to the increase in the rate of duty, depression in trade caused by the war, and high prices of food-grains. The number of licenses for the retail sale of *ganja* issued during the year was 1,265 as against 1,287 in 1914-15. ***Ganja.***

433. The total consumption of *bhang* in the province fell from 510 maunds in 1914-15 to 452 maunds during the year under report, and the revenue from duty and license fees amounted to Rs. 57,634 against Rs. 59,863. ***Bhang.***

434. The revenue from *charas* was Rs. 202 as against Rs. 304 in the preceding year. The consumption of this drug is insignificant. ***Charas.***

435. The quantity of opium consumed within the province was 741 maunds, or 138 maunds less than in 1914-15. The decline is attributed mainly to increase in Treasury prices and also to high prices of food-grains. **Opium.**

The revenue amounted to Rs. 15,95,057, or Rs. 1,10,731 more than in the previous year, as the result of the enhancement of Treasury prices and the increase in settlement fees.

436. Owing to the war and consequent stoppage of supply from Germany, the quantity of cocaine available to smugglers is decreasing. Persons using cocaine as an intoxicant are reported to have paid during 1915-16 as much as Rs. 128 or even Rs. 160 per ounce of cocaine, or more than two and a half times the prices paid before the outbreak of war ; and as the prices payable at the headquarters of supplies at Calcutta and other ports have presumably increased in the same proportion, the trade can be carried on only by persons possessing considerable capital. It is probable that the marked decrease in the number of detections of cocaine smuggling during 1915-16 is due mainly to these causes, although the employment of the special staff, the prohibition of transmission by inland post, the passing of other stringent rules from time to time regulating the traffic in cocaine, and the measures taken to secure the co-operation of the Railway and Postal Departments, have all contributed to make the offence more difficult. It would be idle, however, to suppose that the use of the drug is dying out, or is likely to die out in the near future. Some local officers are of opinion that its popularity as an intoxicant is on the increase, and that if Germany's doors are closed, other countries will probably come forward to meet the demand as long as it exists. **Cocaine.**

437. The number of persons prosecuted for offences against the Excise and Opium Acts was 1,725 only against 1,902 in the preceding year. There was, however, some increase in the numbers of cases detected in Singhbhum (52) and Ranchi (35), chiefly in petty *pachwai* cases, and in Champaran, where some smuggling of Nepal *ganja* took place at the time of the Tribeni fair. It used to be the custom to issue a temporary license for this fair, which is held on the Nepal border, but this was not done this year, in consequence of the arrangement regarding the neutral zone. On the Nepal side, however, a shop was opened at the time of the Mela, and much *ganja* was sold, some of which found its way into the Champaran district. **Excise offences.**

The percentage of convictions to arrests was 88 against 89 in 1914-15. The number of persons imprisoned for offences against the Excise and Opium Acts was 328 against 411. There was a decrease of Rs. 13,117 in the amount of fines imposed.

Stamps.

438. The revenue under the Stamp and Court-Fees Acts amounted to Rs. 66,43,244. For the decrease of Rs. 1,00,031, as compared with the figures of the preceding year, the fall in receipts from judicial stamps is responsible. Under non-judicial there was an increase. **Revenue.**

Judicial stamps.

439. The decline in the revenue from the sale of Court-Fee stamps, which was shared by all divisions except Tirhut and showed a net decrease of Rs. 1,46,710, was most marked in the districts of Bhagalpur (—Rs. 89,686), in which there is said to have been little demand for stamps of the higher denominations and in Hazaribagh (—Rs. 36,696) where the Ramgarh State availed itself of the certificate procedure for the realization of rents. Considerable decreases in Shahabad, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Manbhum, and Balasore are attributed to a decline in the number and value of suits instituted. No very striking increase occurred in any district except Champaran (+Rs. 30,044) where it is ascribed to the revision settlement operations now in progress. There were slighter increases in Saran, Purnea, Gaya, and Palamau.

Non-judicial stamps.

440. The income from sale of non-judicial stamps rose by Rs. 55,129, the increase being contributed mainly by the districts of Saran, Balasore, and Shahabad, and by Gaya, where there was a large sale of stamps of high value to the Maksudpur Estate in connection with the liquidation of its debts.

Sale of stamps.

441. The number of stamp vendors was 1,297, or 23 more than in the previous year. There was an increase of Rs. 2,012 in the discount allowed to vendors, the natural result of the increase in the sale of non-judicial stamps.

Deficit duty.

442. The cases in which civil courts levied deficit duty and penalty numbered 1,054 against 949 in 1914-15, with an increase of Rs. 188 in the amounts realized from the levy. Though the number of cases decided by Revenue officers decreased by 24 there was an increase of Rs. 2,112 in the deficit duties and penalties levied.

Prosecutions under the Stamp Act.

443. Only seven prosecutions, involving seven persons, were instituted against eighteen in the previous year, but the fines imposed rose to Rs. 660 against Rs. 187 in 1914-15.

Working of Section 19 H of the Court-Fees Act.

444. The number of cases instituted for infringement of the provisions of the Stamp Act fell from eighteen in the previous year to seven only, though the number of inquiries completed increased from sixty-six to ninety-six. The amount of deficit duty realized rose from Rs. 1,100 to Rs. 2,607.

Income-tax.

Financial Results.

445. The receipts, charges and net revenue of the year were Rs. 14,29,908, Rs. 46,675 and Rs. 13,83,233, respectively. The net revenue showed an increase of ·2 per cent. as compared with the year 1914-15.

Collections.

446. The total collections showed an increase of Rs. 9,651 or nearly ·7 per cent. over the collections of the preceding year. The increase was shared by all the districts, except Gaya, Monghyr, Puri, Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Manbhum.

There was a noticeable decrease in Monghyr (Rs. 29,596), owing principally to the transfer of the assessment of the Peninsular Tobacco Company from Monghyr to Calcutta. The Government of Bengal have however agreed, since the close of the year, that the assessment of this company should be retransferred to Monghyr. The fall in Gaya and Ranchi was due to general depression in trade owing to the war.

Assessment.

447. The final number of assessees for 1915-16 shows an increase of 323 or 1·7 per cent. over the figure for the preceding year, and the final demand rose from Rs. 12,08,775 to Rs. 12,11,262. The number of assessees under Part IV, paying on an income of more than Rs. 1,000 and less than Rs. 1,250, which had fallen from 5,771 in 1913-14 to 5,755 in 1914-15, rose to 5,887. The percentage of collection on the final demand was 98·6, as against 98·8 in the previous year. The prescribed standard of 95 per cent. was reached in all districts except Hazaribagh.

Forest Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of this Report.]

Provincial Finance.

448. The following statement shows the actual receipts and charges on account of Provincial Services for 1915-16 as compared with those of 1914-15 :— **Receipts and Expenditure.**

(Figures in thousands of rupees.)

Receipts.	Actuals, 1914-15.	Actuals, 1915-16.	Actuals, 1915-16, better (+) and worse (—) than actuals, 1914-15.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Principal Heads of Revenue—			
I.—Land Revenue	86,18	85,35	—83
IV.—Stamps	34,02	33,49	—53
V.—Excise	86,95	82,29	—4,66
VI.—Provincial Rates	1,26	1,83	+57
VIII.—Income-Tax	7,12	7,14	+2
IX.—Forests	5,50	5,18	—32
X.—Registration	6,47	6,96	+49
Total ...	2,27,50	2,22,24	—5,26
XII.—Interest	1,82	1,87	+5
Receipts by Civil Departments—			
XVIA.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law	2,96	3,51	+55
XVIB.—Law and Justice—Jails ...	7,03	6,82	—21
XVII.—Police	40	36	—4
XIX.—Education	3,00	3,71	+71
XX.—Medical	19	32	+13
XXIA.—Agriculture	...	26	+8
XXIB.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.	21	3	
Total ...	13,79	15,01	+1,22
Miscellaneous—			
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation	31	32	+1
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ...	30	22	—8
XXV.—Miscellaneous	4,03	3,12	—91
Total ...	4,64	3,66	—98
Irrigation—			
XXIX.—Major Works—Direct Receipts—Public Works Department.	12,23	13,60	+1,37
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—			
(*a*) Civil	25	26	+1
(*b*) Public Works	11	8	—3
Total ...	12,59	13,94	+1,35

Receipts.	Actuals, 1914-15.	Actuals, 1915-16.	Actuals, 1915-16, better (+) and worse (—) than actuals, 1914-15.
1	2	3	4
Other Public Works—			
XXI.—Civil Works—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(*a*) Civil	1,34	1,21	—13
(*b*) Public Works	2,41	2,78	+37
Total ...	3,75	3,99	+24
Transfer between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.	37,52	56,77	+19,25
Total Revenue ...	3,01,61	3,17,48	+15,87
Direct demands on the Revenue—			
1.—Refunds and Drawbacks. ...	61	50	+11
2.—Assignments and compensations ...	55	51	+4
Total ...	1,16	1,01	+15
Charges in respect of collections—			
3.—Land Revenue	24,70	23,13	+1,57
6.—Stamps	1,10	89	+21
7.—Excise	4,24	4,39	—15
8.—Provincial Rates	...	...	...
10.—Income-Tax	22	23	—1
11.—Forests	3,84	3,62	+22
12.—Registration	3,66	3,78	—12
Total ...	37,76	36,04	+1,72
13.—Interest on ordinary debt ...	1,05	1,08	—3
Salaries and Expenses of Civil Departments—			
18.—General Administration ...	13,46	13,50	—4
19A.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law	35,31	38,22	—2,91
19B.—Law and Justice—Jails ...	14,80	14,21	+59
20.—Police	47,23	47,56	—33
21.—Port and Pilotage	1	5	—4
22.—Education	36,88	35,74	+114
24.—Medical	10,03	9,64	+39
25.—Political	57	40	+17
26A.—Agriculture	4,73	4,74	—1
26B.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.	26	22	+4
Total ...	1,63,28	1,64,28	—100

Receipts.	Actuals, 1914-15.	Actuals, 1915-16.	Actuals, 1915-16, better (+) and worse (—) than actuals, 1914-15.
1	2	3	4
Miscellaneous—Civil Charges—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
29.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.	9,21	10,03	—82
30.—Stationery and Printing ...	5,55	6,59	—104
32.—Miscellaneous	1,41	1,32	+9
Total ...	16,17	17,94	—177
Famine Relief and insurance—			
36.—Reduction or avoidance of debt ...	2,00	2,00	...
Irrigation—			
42.—Irrigation—Major Works—			
(*a*) Working Expenses... ...	7,11	7,59	—48
(*b*) Interest on Debt	9,06	8,99	+7
43.—Minor Works and Navigation—			
(*a*) Civil	2	2	...
(*b*) Public Works	166	1,40	+26
Total ...	17,85	18,00	—15
Other Public Works—			
45—Civil Works—			
(*a*) Civil	16,19	7,59	+8,60
(*b*) Public Works	83,46	80,84	+2,62
Total ...	99,65	88,43	+11,22
Total Expenditure ...	3,38,92	3,28,78	+10,14

449. *Receipts.*—Although revenue declined under almost all the principal heads of revenue, it was more than made good by larger subventions—mainly for the High Court Buildings (16,95)—from imperial revenue which accounts for a net increase of 15,87 over the actuals for 1914-15. There were however increases under Provincial Rates (57), Registration (49), Courts of Law (55), Education (71), Irrigation—Major Works (137) and Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers (37). The large increase under Irrigation—Major Works was due to larger demand for water for *rabi* irrigation. The marked decreases were under Land Revenue (83), Stamps (53), Excise (466), Forests (32), Jails (21), Miscellaneous (91). The large decrease under Land Revenue was due to poor collections, specially arrear collections, and to heavy suspensions on account of the failure of crops and dullness of trade. The heavy drop in Excise Revenue is attributed to high prices of food-grains prevailing throughout the province and the general dislocation of trade caused by the war and also to a socio-religious movement among the Oraons, one of the features of which was the eschewing of spirituous liquor. Variations.

Expenditure.—In connection with the actuals of the previous year there was a net decrease of 10,14 in consequence of the war, which rendered it necessary to retrench expenditure in all departments. The most noticeable decreases occurred under Land Revenue (157), Jails (59), Education (114), Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers (860) and in charge of Public Works Officers (262). The decrease under Land Revenue was due to smaller expenditure under Survey and Settlement and Land Records, and that under Jails to smaller purchases of raw materials. Under Education and Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers, there were grants-in-aid and smaller contributions to local bodies

respectively. The decrease under Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers was due to curtailment of the building programme. Considerable increases, however, occurred under Courts of Law (291), Superannuation allowances and Pensions (82), Stationery and Printing (104), and Irrigation—Major Works—working expenses (48). The large increase under Courts of Law was occasioned by the establishment of the Patna High Court. Under Superannuation allowances and Pensions, it was due to the increase in the non-effective charges on account of pensions and also to increase in the number of pensions commuted. The Gaya Forms Press was the cause of the large increase under Stationery and Printing. Under Irrigation—Major Works—working expenses—there was a large expenditure on repairs necessitated by floods which breached the Tribeni Canal.

Local Finance.

Balance.

450. The following table shows the income and expenditure of the opening and the closing balances of the various local funds in the province for the year 1915-16 :—

Name of Funds.	Opening balance on 1st April 1915.	Receipts during the year.	Total.	Expenditure during the year.	Closing balance on 31st March 1916.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. District Funds ...	29,10,731	75,37,218	1,04,47,949	84,83,002	19,64,947
2. Union Funds ...	10,173	26,261	36,434	27,546	8,888
3. District Road Funds ...	1,91,467	3,04,996	4,96,463	3,76,244	1,20,219
4. District Chaukidari Reward Fund.	63,977	34,557	98,534	61,762	36,772
5. Village Chaukidari Reward Fund.	1,05,935	4,49,979	5,55,914	4,43,703	1,12,211
6. Road Patrol Fund ...	17,978	42,157	60,135	39,441	20,694
7. Pilgrims Lodging House Fund.	94,462	56,621	1,51,083	82,312	68,771
8. Cantonment Funds ...	4,548	30,168	34,716	30,780	3,936
9. Town and Bazar Funds ...	3,131	7,303	10,434	9,533	901
10. Education Funds ...	2,596	3,200	5,796	4,632	1,164
11. Medical and Charitable Funds.	5,008	30,906	35,914	30,646	5,268
12. Jharia Mines Board of Health.	50,534	45,333	95,867	62,996	32,871
13. Jharia Water Board ...	3,61,042	2,72,769	6,33,811	1,27,221	5,06,590
14. Khondmal Road Fund ...	1,020	5,677	6,697	5,823	874
15. Orissa Port Fund ...	...	11,743	11,743	11,743	...
16. Municipal Funds ...	11,91,203	20,37,858	32,29,061	23,68,658	8,60,403
GRAND TOTAL ...	50,13,805	1,08,96,746	1,59,10,551	1,21,66,042	37,44,509

The number of Union Funds authorized to bank with treasuries increased from 5 in 1914-15 to 12 during the year under review. The large receipts of the Jharia Water Board include a loan of Rs. 2,00,000 from Government. The actual receipts of the Orissa Port Fund were Rs. 1,125 while the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 11,743 but the difference was made good by a grant from Provincial revenues. The receipts of the Local Funds were in the aggregate much less than those of the previous year, while expenditure increased considerably, and this accounts for the large decrease on the closing balance of the year.

Road and Public Works Cesses.

[Land Revenue Administration Report for 1915-16.]

451. The Local Cess, comprising the former Road and Public Works Cesses, continued to be levied at the maximum rate of one anna in the rupee on the annual net profits of mines or other immovable property throughout the province, except in the districts of Angul and Sambalpur and the Kolhan Government Estate in the district of Singhbhum, where the Cess Act, 1880, is not in force. In Sambalpur the rates for the maintenance of roads, schools and district post under the Central Provinces Local Self-Government Act were assessed at a lump sum at the settlement, and the demand for the year (Rs. 15,112) was realized in full. **Rate at which levied.**

452. The gross rental on which cesses were assessed during the year was Rs. 9,53,18,790, exceeding the previous year's figure by Rs. 26,75,969. The increase was mainly due to (*i*) large accessions to the annual valuation of the districts of Patna and Shahabad on account of revaluation and the revision of *Jamabandi* in Government Estates, and (*ii*) the annual revision in the district of Manbhum of the assessment on mines and forests. The current cess demand of the year exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 2,29,000. Out of the total demand, both current and arrear, of the year, which amounted to Rs. 64,95,579 against Rs. 63,04,670 in 1914-15, a sum of Rs. 54,06,714 was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 10,93,607, exclusive of the remissions amounting to Rs. 18,041. The percentage of total collections on current demand showed a considerable falling off, and was 98·14 against 100·00 in the preceding year. The prescribed standard of a hundred per cent. on the current demand was attained only in six districts. **Demands and Realization.**

453. Including 9,252 certificates pending at the end of the year 1914-15, the total number of cases for disposal was 61,174 of which only 45,546 were disposed of during the year. The objections filed and disposed of numbered 3,339 and 3,208, respectively, against 3,134 and 3,012 in the preceding year. Certificates had to be cancelled in 346 cases as compared with 464 in the previous year. The falling off from 182 to 91 in the number of cases in which demands had to be reduced is a satisfactory evidence of greater care exercised in entering demands in certificates. Out of 424 cases in which property was actually sold, sales were subsequently set aside in 243 cases. Payments were secured by the issue of warrants of attachment and of arrest 310 and 192 cases respectively against 258 and 129 cases in 1914-15. **Working of the Certificate Procedure.**

454. Revaluation operations were in progress in the districts of Patna, Shahabad, Balasore, Cuttack and on a smaller scale in Gaya, Palamau and Manbhum. In Patna, Balasore and Cuttack (excluding the Government Estate of Banki) the operations were completed during the year under report and resulted in increases in the Cess demand of Rs. 1,44,745, Rs. 33,250 and Rs. 56,201, respectively. During the year the Bihar and Orissa Cess Amendment Bill was passed into law and came into force with effect from the 3rd January 1916. Among the chief changes are the amalgamation of the former Road and Public Works Cesses into a single "Local Cess", the entire net proceeds of which belong to the various District Boards and District Road Committees, the amendment of the procedure for conducting revaluation *pari passu* with settlement operations, and the delegation to the Board of Revenue of some of the powers previously exercised by the Local Government. **Valuations and Revaluations.**

Municipal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter III of the Report, "Municipalities".]

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Vital Statistics.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1915.—Statistics of British India, Part V.—Area, Population and Public Health.]

Climatic condition.

455. The rainfall for the year was generally above the normal in the Tirhut, Bhagalpur and Orissa Divisions and below the normal in the Patna and Chota Nagpur Divisions. The monsoon set in late and withdrew about a week after the normal date. The concluding fall of the rainy season occurred on the 22nd October. A heavy downpour in August in connexion with a cyclonic disturbance in the northern part of Bihar caused floods in the districts of Saran, Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Monghyr and Bhagalpur. On account of the uneven distribution of the rainfall in the province the crops were damaged in some localities by floods, while in others they suffered from drought. On the whole, however, the outturn of the crops was not much below the average. The average price of common rice varied from 9·6 seers to the rupee in Sambalpur to 6·2 seers in the Santal Parganas. In the majority of the districts it was 7 seers or over.

Vital Statistics.

456. The year on the whole was fairly healthy. Both the birth and the death-rates compared unfavourably with those of the preceding year. The rate of births was 40·4 which is lower than that of the previous year by 1·9, and that of the average of the five preceding years 1909—13 by ·5. The death-rate was 32·2, the same as the average of the five preceding years 1909—13, but higher than the ratio of the preceding year by 3·9. The rate of increase of population, i.e., the excess of the birth-rate over the death-rate was 8·2 per mille.

Registration of vital occurrences.

457. Great interest has been taken in the registration of vital occurrences and methods have now been adopted for securing uniformity of procedure in collecting and verifying these statistics. As a result of the recent reforms in the registration of these statistics introduced in April 1915 in the twelve chief towns of the province, it is becoming evident that the low rates both of births and deaths returned from most Municipalities are due to defective registration and a rapid rise may be expected in the reported ratios during the next few years. The working of the scheme for accurately recording vital occurrences in a selected area in Muzaffarpur actually commenced during May 1915. The results are as yet incomplete but tend to show an error of omission of 3 per mille in the recording of births and over 4 per mille in the recording of deaths.

Cholera.

458. The death-rate from cholera rose from ·9 to 2·5 which was slightly lower than the average of the last ten years. The disease broke out in epidemic form in Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Monghyr as an after effect of floods. During the year under report District Boards and Municipalities were requested to distribute permanganate of potash free when there was an outbreak of cholera in epidemic form and to sell it through local agents at other seasons of the year.

Small-pox.

459. The death-rate from small-pox was ·4. This was higher than the ratio of the previous year by ·2 and that of the past decade by ·1. It broke out in epidemic form in Darbhanga and Sambalpur.

Fevers.

460. Nearly two-thirds of the total mortality was attributed to "fever" but this was due largely to the ignorance of the reporting agencies who are unable to diagnose any but a few well-defined diseases, such as plague, cholera, and small-pox, and attribute indiscriminately to fever the deaths from most other causes. It is impossible to say how much

of the mortality recorded under this head is due to malaria, but it is known that this disease is endemic in most parts of the province. The death-rate (20·2) was higher than the ratio of the previous year by 2·5 and slightly lower than the average of the past decade. In all districts except Singhbhum there was a rise in mortality under this head. A scheme for the investigation of malaria in the hyper-endemic areas along the Nepal Terai and among the ghats and foot hills of the Chota Nagpur Plateau and the Santal Parganas is included in the general scheme for the sanitary survey of the province, but this work unfortunately cannot be carried out at present both for want of funds and for lack of specially trained officers.

The scheme for administering quinine to Government servants drawing less than Rs. 10 a month in Purnea began on a systematic basis in May 1915. The measure met with a fair degree of success, but the number of persons under treatment constantly fell owing to the objection of the people to taking the drug when no symptoms of fever were present. The result of the experiment is fairly definite inasmuch as the number of fever cases amongst the persons treated was small, but is unsatisfactory, because the people will not voluntarily continue the use of the drug.

As in the last year, the two malarial lecturers worked in the districts of Shahabad and Purnea and a third lecturer began working in Cuttack on 12th September. The travelling dispensaries, established experimentally by Government in 1913, proved a complete success and have now been handed over to the District Boards for maintenance. As they have thus been placed on a permanent footing, their statistics will in future be included in the Dispensary Returns submitted by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals.

461. There was a considerable decline in the mortality from plague. The death-rate was ·7 against 1·8 in the preceding year and was lower than the ratio of the preceding ten years. This disease, which has caused so much havoc in the province during the last twenty years, appears to be slowly but definitely abating. For the first time since its appearance a complete fortnight elapsed without a single plague death being recorded. The districts of Purnea, Balasore, Angul, Puri, Sambalpur, Ranchi, Manbhum and Singhbhum were altogether free from plague and in all the districts of the province there was a marked decrease in mortality from this disease. The maintenance of a special staff for anti-plague inoculation has been discontinued, except at Bhagalpur, and the operations for the destruction of rats have also been abandoned. Neither of these measures had been attended with a sufficient measure of success to justify their continuance. **Plague.**

462. The death-rate from dysentery and diarrhœa was ·9 which was slightly higher than the previous year but was the same as the average of the last ten years. The Orissa Division as usual suffered most. **Dysentery and diarrhœa.**

463. The death-rate from respiratory diseases was ·2. This was higher than the ratio of the previous year and the average of the last ten years. **Respiratory disease.**

INLAND EMIGRATION.

[Report on Inland Emigration under the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, 1901 (VI of 1901), for the year ending on the 30th June 1915, submitted by the Superintendents of Emigration in the province of Bihar and Orissa.]

464. During the year under review efforts have been made in several directions to improve the conditions under which labourers are recruited in Bihar and Orissa for the tea gardens of Assam and conveyed to their destination. **Administrative measures.**

By Notification No. 9086, dated the 19th June 1915, issued by the Government of India, section 7 of Act VIII of 1915, which repeals the whole of Chapter III and section 90 of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act with other consequential sections, was brought into force on the 1st of July 1915. The effect of this repeal has been to render sardari recruiting under Chapter IV the only form of recruitment permissible under the law.

Further, by Notification No. 9619-M. of the Local Government, dated the 23rd July 1915, very considerable concessions were made to sardars working

under local agents, while in letter Nos. 5860-64-M., dated the 30th April 1915, issued by the Local Government in the Municipal Department, directions had already been given that special vigilance should be exercised in regard to the operations of sardars not working under local agents. The effect of these measures will, it is hoped, encourage recruitment by genuine sardars, more especially those who are working under recognized supervising agencies.

In the course of the year three supervisors were appointed under the Assam Labour Board and their duties clearly defined. They are, briefly, to inspect and report on the working of the local agents and to check all irregular recruiting. Their powers are by notification exercised throughout the province of Bihar and Orissa except Angul and the Khondmals. The question of extending the provisions of the Act to Angul is under consideration.

Rules known as the Assam Labour Board Rules, framed under section 116-F. of the Act, have been issued by the Government of India with their Notification Nos. 295-132-C., dated the 20th November 1915. Under Rule 24(3) of these rules the Superintendent of Emigration in each district is required to furnish to the Chairman of the Assam Labour Board monthly statements showing, in respect of each local agent and of each employer who has not appointed a local agent, the total number of persons recruited or engaged as labourers or assisted to emigrate by such local agent or employer during the month to which the return relates, and the number of persons dispatched to each tea garden in the labour districts by each such local agent or employer.

While it is not to be expected that all abuses will be remedied immediately and the reports of Superintendents of Emigration show that cases of false description of emigrants by garden sardars still occur, it is hoped that these measures will be increasingly effectual in removing such defects as still exist.

The regularization of recruitment in the Native States has been engaging the attention of the Local Government, but has not yet been finally settled. It is hoped that the necessary rules to regulate such recruitment will be ready for issue before long.

To prevent unnecessary delays in conveying labour from recruiting districts to the labour area, instructions have been issued to the local officers that in cases where one of a number of labourers who are being forwarded in one batch lodges any complaint against the sardar or peon in charge, the whole batch should not be detained while the investigation is being carried out, but information should at once be given to the nearest local or forwarding agent, so that he may arrange to send on to their destination the emigrants not required for the inquiry.

The places of accommodation are generally reported to have been maintained in good sanitary condition throughout the year ; and no serious outbreak of any epidemic diseases occurred. At some places, however, overcrowding was noticed and temporary sheds had to be erected to accommodate the overflow. In Cuttack and Balasore, where there has been a large increase in the number of emigrants, it is proposed to acquire new sites for constructing more commodious buildings.

Number of emigrants.

465. The total number of emigrants recruited was 94,911 as compared with 40,322 in 1914-15 and 27,996 in 1913-14. An increase in the number of emigrants was recorded in Cuttack, Balasore, Singhbhum, Sambalpur, Ranchi and Manbhum, and in the Feudatory States of Orissa, and is ascribed mainly to bad harvests and to the more extensive employment of garden sardars following the abolition of the system of recruitment by contractors.

Criminal cases.

466. The number of criminal cases in which the emigrants were the complainants, and the number of persons convicted rose from 59 and 49 in 1914-15 to 85 and 91, respectively, in 1915-16. Considering the increase in the number of recruits the increase in the number of cases is not abnormal.

467. The receipts and charges in connection with the transport of labour were Rs. 584 and Rs. 1,709, respectively, as against Rs. 2,209 and Rs. 1,759 in 1914-15. The decrease in receipts is due to the repeal of Chapter III of the Act, no licenses being issued to contractors and sub-contractors. **Inland Labour Transport Fund.**

Medical Institutions.

[Annual returns of Hospitals and Dispensaries in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1915, with notes.—Statistics of British India, Part V.—Area, Population and Public Health.]

468. The year 1915 opened with 349 hospitals and dispensaries of all classes and closed with 366 institutions, a net increase of 17. The largest number, 11, were opened by the District Boards. Four were State institutions, one private-aided and one Railway Hospital. A European Hospital was opened at Ranchi. Of the four closed during the year, two were Railway Dispensaries, one the Public Works Department Dispensary at Tebo in Singhbhum and the fourth Municipal Dispensary at Bettiah. The last was replaced by the new King Edward Memorial Hospital built and maintained by the Bettiah Estate. The estate also established four new dispensaries in Champaran but made them over to the District Board with a suitable annual allotment from its revenues. In several places the establishment of new dispensaries was sanctioned by the District Boards but the buildings were not completed during the year, the war having hampered progress in most cases. **Number of Dispensaries.**

Besides the stationary institutions, seven travelling dispensaries worked at the cost of Government in the districts of Saran and Shahabad in connection with anti-plague operations. They were transferred to certain District Boards at the end of the year 1915-16. Other District Boards in the province also arranged to start such dispensaries. In addition to the above measures, the system of periodically deputing medical officers of dispensaries to neighbouring fairs and markets was continued, with the result that 80,000 patients were treated during 1915 as against 65,000 in 1914.

469. Considerable additions and improvements to the General Hospital at the Provincial Capital have been effected since 1914 and it has recently been made a State Institution. **Number of patients treated.**

During the year 3,446,782 patients were treated as compared with 3,220,826 in 1914. Of these 50,487 were in-patients and 339,629 out-patients against 46,421 and 3,174,405, respectively, in the previous year. The Darbhanga Raj Hospital treated as many as 96,094 people, Madhubani Hospital 62,729 and the new Bettiah Hospital 55,892. The number of patients relieved in the medical institutions in Bihar and Orissa was 9·99 of the population against 9·34 in 1914.

470. The provincial vital statistics indicate that the year under review was less healthy than 1914, the death-rate per mille having risen from 28·3 to 32·2. There was an increase in the number of deaths from the more important diseases, e.g., cholera, small-pox and malaria; and plague alone showed a decrease. **Diseases treated.**

471. The total income of the medical institutions amounted to Rs. 10,58,104 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,03,129. Of the total receipts, Government contributed Rs. 3,13,550, District Boards Rs. 3,79,193, Municipalities Rs. 1,06,922, other local funds Rs. 4,67,741, while sums amounting to Rs. 1,39,410 were obtained from subscriptions and donations and Rs. 8,787 from invested capital. **Finance.**

472. The two Provincial Medical Schools are situated at Bankipore and Cuttack, the former serving the students from Bihar and the latter those from Orissa. The passed students of these institutions are of the status of Sub-Assistant Surgeons in Government Service. There are also separate classes for compounders. Since the creation of the province, much has been done by the Local Government to improve them in respect of buildings curriculum and staff. The Superintendents in charge are the local Civil Surgeons, and are Indian Medical Service Officers. **Medical Schools.**

The students on the rolls during the year under report numbered 98 at Bankipore and 165 at Cuttack. The popularity of the medical schools has been adversely affected by the poor prospects offered by the medical profession as represented by the emoluments of Sub-Assistant Surgeons. It is hoped that matters will improve on the introduction of the revised rates of pay recently sanctioned.

Leper Asylum.

473. In the eight leper asylums in the province 1,288 lepers were treated against 1,170 in 1914. The total expenditure incurred for their upkeep amounted to Rs. 87,656 against Rs. 89,650 in 1914. Of these sums, Government contributed Rs. 31,821 and Rs. 24,704, respectively.

The proposal for the establishment at Cuttack of a leper asylum for Orissa is approaching maturity.

Lunatic Asylum.

[Annual returns of the Patna Lunatic Asylum at Bankipore in Bihar and Orissa with brief notes for the year 1915.]

Population, admission and discharge.

474. In the Lunatic Asylum at Patna, which is the only such Asylum at present existing in the province there were 258 males and 44 females at the beginning of the year and 268 males and 41 females at its close. New admissions numbered 88 males and six females, the total number being reduced by 47 males and four females discharged and by 36 males and five females who died. The comparatively high rate of mortality at this institution (13 per cent. of the asylum population) is attributed chiefly to its bad and insanitary situation and steps will be taken to improve the state of affairs as far as practicable. The only permanent remedy would be the opening of the combined central asylums at Ranchi which have already received the sanction of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, but are being delayed for lack of funds owing to the war.

Finance.

475. The total receipts of the Patna Lunatic Asylum under all heads aggregated to Rs. 63,478 against Rs. 43,566 in 1914. This increase was due mainly to the increased daily average population, increased cost of diet, clothing and bedding of patients, and to structural additions and improvements.

Sanitation.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1915.]

Sanitary Improvements.

476. The total expenditure for sanitary purposes in the Municipal towns of the province was Rs. 14,77,004 against Rs. 14,48,054 in the previous year. The increase in expenditure under the head "Conservancy" was Rs. 43,152. Of this the most important item was an expenditure, amounting to Rs. 28,968, incurred by the Cuttack Municipality for the improvement of the conservancy services. The increase in the expenditure on drainage was Rs. 11,372 and on markets Rs. 30,354, of which Rs. 19,089 was incurred in Gaya. The inspection of Municipalities has been more frequent and more thorough than was formerly the case, but, possibly owing to the lack of funds, the advice given was not always turned to practical advantage. The total expenditure on sanitation by District Boards was Rs. 3,71,868 against Rs. 2,45,803 in the previous year.

Staff.

477. The superior staff of the Sanitary Engineer was strengthened during the latter part of the year by the addition of two Assistant Sanitary Engineers while the subordinate establishment has been reorganized. These measures have increased the efficiency of the department and will enable the Sanitary Board to deal more systematically and expeditiously with the important projects now in course of execution.

Sanitary School.

478. The possibilities of increasing the usefulness of the Sanitary School at Patna were closely examined by a special Committee in consequence of whose recommendations a strong and representative Board of Control was constituted, and a revised syllabus prescribed for the course of instruction.

479. The scheme for the establishment of a Chemical and Bacteriological Laboratory at Patna cannot be undertaken at present but the temporary Laboratory at Gulzarbagh will be improved.

480. During the year under report water analysis only were carried out in the Sanitary Laboratory, but with a view to the extension of the functions of the Laboratory, an Assistant Surgeon was appointed as probationary Chemical Analyst in November 1915 and sent for training under the Chemical Examiner, Bengal, at Calcutta. Apparatus and chemicals for the analysis of milk and *ghi* and other food-stuffs were ordered from England. **Chemical and Bacteriological Laboratory. Sanitary Laboratory.**

481. During the year a scheme was worked out for carrying out a complete sanitary survey of the province, but the work cannot be taken up on a large scale at present owing to the lack of funds and of the necessary trained staff. **Sanitary survey.**

Vaccination.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1915 and Annual Vaccination Report, Bihar and Orissa, for 1915-16.]

482. The death-rate from small-pox was ·4. This was higher than the ratio of the previous year by ·2 and that of the past decade by ·1. During the year under report the disease broke out in epidemic form in the districts of Darbhanga and Sambalpur. The total number of operations performed by all agencies was 1,288,419 as compared with 1,314,042 last year. Of these 1,255,710 were performed by the Vaccination Department. The percentage of successful operations was 97·23 against 98·12 last year. Both the primary operations and re-vaccinations fell off during the year by 37,114 and 2,355, respectively. **Small-pox and Vaccination.**

Vaccination is already compulsory in all Municipalities. The Vaccination Acts were extended during the year to the Jharia Coal field area and to the Patna and Phulwari Police-stations in Patna District.

The working of the Vaccine Depôt has now been placed on a satisfactory footing and has resulted in a more plentiful and less costly supply of good lymph.

The Poisons Act.

[Report on the working of the Poisons Act during 1915.]

483. Cattle poisoning is still reported to be prevalent in some districts. **Working of the Poisons Act.**

Since the close of the year under report the question of framing rules for the possession of white arsenic under section 5 of the Poisons Act has been under the consideration of Government.

CHAPTER VII—INSTRUCTION.

General System of Public Instruction.

SEE—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 220—225.

Education.

[Report on the Progress of Education in Bihar and Orissa for 1915-16.—Statistics of British India, Part VII.—Educational.]

General statistics.

484. The total expenditure on Public Instruction during the year under review was Rs. 84,55,722. Of this sum Rs. 2,58,228 was spent on European Schools to which provincial revenues contributed Rs. 1,18,112 and municipal funds Rs. 1,808. The sum of Rs. 81,97,494 spent on Indian education was contributed as follows :—

	Rs.
Provincial Revenues	30,22,874
District funds	15,57,335
Municipal funds	1,26,419
Fees	21,88,714
Other sources	13,02,152
Total ...	81,97,494

The direct expenditure amounted to Rs. 56,86,480 and the indirect expenditure to Rs. 27,69,242. Of the direct expenditure Rs. 4,61,901 was spent on colleges, Rs. 16,24,992 on Secondary Schools, Rs. 26,19,565 on Primary Schools and Rs. 9,80,022 on Training Schools and special schools. Of the indirect expenditure more than fourteen lakhs were spent on buildings and purchase of furniture and apparatus, six lakhs approximately on Direction and Inspection, about a lakh on scholarships and some seven lakhs on hostel charges. In British territory alone there were 29,558 public institutions attended by 831,430 scholars which represent 16·07 of the total population of school-going age. The number of male pupils was 714,587 or 28·26 per cent. of the male population of school-going age, and of female pupils 116,843 or 4·41 per cent. of the female population of school-going age. There were 1,533 institutions with 85,514 pupils in urban areas, and 25,304 schools with 702,525 pupils in rural areas. The total direct expenditure on the former was Rs. 22,34,497 and on the latter Rs. 33,23,081. These figures exclude private institutions and European schools.

Arts colleges.

485. The number of Arts colleges remained unaltered, but the classification was changed owing to the provincialization of the Bhumihar Brahman College. There were therefore three Government colleges, while the number of aided colleges fell from four to three. The total number of students increased from 2,227 to 2,415, the direct expenditure rose from Rs. 3,50,070 to Rs. 3,99,151 and the indirect expenditure from Rs. 1,65,354 to Rs. 1,76,931. An amount of Rs. 21,000 was distributed for the improvement of private colleges.

At the Patna College the total number of students was 370 on the 31st March 1916 as compared with 360 on the same date in 1915, but the average monthly roll number showed marked improvement and was 389 as against 365, while the maximum on the rolls during the year was 410. The direct

expenditure rose from Rs. 1,21,948 to Rs. 1,32,592, the cost per student being Rs. 340-13-8 as against Rs. 334-1-8. The new laboratories continued to give satisfaction and the increased accommodation led to a large number of admissions in the Science classes, with the result that the number of students admitted to the first and second year Chemistry classes was nearly double that of former years. The library was enriched with a valuable set of scientific journals costing Rs. 2,795.

At the Ravenshaw College the number of students on the 31st March 1916 was 484 as against 488 in 1915, but the average monthly roll number rose from 472 to 497. The direct expenditure increased from Rs. 95,159 to Rs. 1,14,177 and the cost per student from Rs. 201-9-9 to Rs. 229-11-9. The college secured affiliation up to the Honours standard in Persian.

The Bhumihar Brahman College will be henceforth known as the Greer Bhumihar Brahman College. The number of students on the 31st March rose from 265 to 292 and the monthly roll number from 280 to 298. The direct expenditure increased from Rs. 31,478 to Rs. 34,629 and the cost per student from Rs. 112-6-9 to Rs. 116-3-3.

Secondary Education.

486. The number of Scondary Schools for boys rose from 303 to 316, the number of pupils from 52,933 to 54,694, and the expenditure from Rs. 11,64,501 to Rs. 12,82,502. The number of high schools increased from 91 to 94, the number of pupils from 30,887 to 32,392 and the expenditure from Rs. 8,47,547 to Rs. 9,29,733.

For Middle English Schools for boys the figures were 222 schools, 22,046 pupils and Rs. 3,52,769 expenditure against 212 schools, 22,302 pupils and Rs. 3,16,954 expenditure. The average annual fee rose from Rs. 19·8 to Rs. 21·2 in the case of High Schools and from Rs. 6·3 to Rs. 7·4 in the case of Middle English Schools, a result due to an increase in the number of pupils in higher classes of both types of schools. The scale of fees remained unchanged.

Three new High Schools were recognized during the year, viz., Nawadah High School, Pusa High School, and the High School at Madhepur in the district of Darbhanga.

Of the eleven new Middle English Schools one is in Tirhut, nine are in the Bhagalpur Division and one is in Orissa. In the Chota Nagpur Division two schools were recognized as Middle English Schools for the first time but recognition was withdrawn from two others, while another was reduced to Middle Vernacular status.

New buildings have been completed for the Patna Collegiate School, the Muzaffarpur Zila School and the Ranchi Zila School. Extensions were completed at Purnea and Gaya. New buildings were in progress for St. Paul's High School at Ranchi, the Zila Schools at Puri and Balasore, the C. M. S. High School at Bhagalpur and the Nawadah High School and extensions at Darbhanga, Motihari and Chaibassa. Other projects must await improvement in the financial situation.

Manual Training classes were opened at Patna, Cuttack, Ranchi and Bhagalpur.

Primary Education.

487. The total number of Middle Vernacular, Upper Primary and Lower Primary Schools fell during the year from 21,457 to 21,351 and that of their pupils from 612,084 to 602,734 though the expenditure rose from Rs. 23,98,825 to Rs. 24,84,045.

The number of Middle Vernacular Schools rose from 122 to 125 and that of their pupils from 10,419 to 11,034. There was an increase of five schools in the Tirhut Division, but two schools in Bhagalpur were raised to the Middle English status. The expenditure rose from Rs. 1,17,431 to Rs. 1,46,586. All Government Middle Vernacular Schools in Singhbhum have now been provided with new buildings. It has been decided to introduce the Vernacular School Leaving Certificate Examination in selected boys' schools in the province, the first examination to take place in November 1917.

The number of Upper Primary Schools rose from 1,650 to 1,687 and that of their pupils from 88,653 to 88,698. The number of Lower Primary Schools fell from 19,685 to 19,539 and the number of pupils from 513,012 to 503,002.

Training of Teachers.

488. The new buildings for the Patna Training College were completed and occupied, the number of students was raised from 15 to 40. A Bachelor of Teaching class was opened, in addition to the existing Licentiate in Teaching class and the Professional staff was proportionately strengthened. In addition, the new and spacious buildings for the Patna Collegiate School, which is the practising school of the College, were opened. The hostel buildings were, however, not quite completed.

The cost of the college rose from Rs. 19,922 to Rs. 41,633 but the cost of training each teacher declined from Rs. 1,532 to Rs. 1,040. Twenty-four out of 25 and ten out of 15 were successful in the last B. T. and L. T. Examinations, respectively.

The number of First Grade Training Schools remained unchanged, but the number of their pupils rose from 371 to 380. The new buildings at Patna, Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur were occupied during the year.

The number of Government Training Schools for Gurus and for Muhammadan teachers remained 116, while the number of pupils increased from 1,736 to 1,786.

Law Colleges, Medical, Engineering, Surveying and Commercial Schools.

489. The number of students in the Patna Law College rose from 113 to 174, the number in the B. L. classes being 139 and in the Pleadership classes 35. An additional lecturer was appointed during the year to cope with the large number of students. The College is to be housed in the Old Training College and Training School buildings which will afford more accommodation.

In the Pleadership class at Bhagalpur the number of students rose from 14 to 21 and in that at Cuttack the number increased from 12 to 18.

In the Medical Schools at Bankipore and Cuttack the number of students declined from 216 to 209, while the expenditure rose from Rs. 71,946 to Rs. 77,825.

The number of students in the Bihar School of Engineering declined from 158 to 155, and the expenditure from Rs. 97,976 to Rs. 73,162, but it should be noted that last year's expenditure included two large unusual items amounting to Rs. 21,139.

It is satisfactory to record that the school has been able to assist to some extent in the manufacture of munitions in India. The best machine tool in the school, one of Drummond's 8″ geared head stock lathes, was lent for munition work and is now in use in a shell factory in Calcutta. The remaining lathes have been in constant use for making small studs, nuts, screws, bolts, etc., for factories in Cawnpore, Cossipore and Jubbulpore.

The roll number of the Cuttack Survey School rose from 14 to 15. The proposal to raise the status of the school to that of an Engineering School is now under the consideration of the Government of India.

The number of Commercial Schools rose from 3 to 4 and the number of pupils from 110 to 124.

Industrial and Technical Schools.

490. The number of pupils in industrial and technical schools rose from 1,085 to 1,282, while the number of schools declined from 37 to 35. The expenditure rose from Rs. 52,201 to Rs. 60,752.

Education of Indian Girls and Women.

491. The number of girls' schools rose from 2,670 to 2,845 and the number of girls in girls' schools from 61,732 to 65,747, though the number of girls in boys' schools fell from 52,221 to 50,586. There was thus a net increase of 2,380 girls in schools. The Resolution of the Local Government on the report of the Conference on Female Education in 1914 was recorded during the year and action is being taken in accordance with the policy enunciated therein. An expenditure of Rs. 31,000 was incurred during the year from the Imperial recurring grant of Rs. 47,000 for girls' schools.

An important step forward in connection with the female education was taken during the year by the formation of college classes attached to the Ravenshaw Girls' School, Cuttack, for preparing women students for the Intermediate Examination as private students.

The number of High Schools remained 3 while that of their pupils fell from 337 to 325, though the expenditure increased from Rs. 39,171 to Rs. 48,034. The number of girls in the Ravenshaw Girls' School fell from 179 to 165 and in Bankipore Girls' School from 102 to 88, but at Giridih it rose from 50 to 72. A spacious private house with grounds adjoining has been acquired for the use of the Ravenshaw Girls' School.

The number of Middle English Schools rose from 4 to 5 and that of their pupils from 467 to 589. The number of Middle Vernacular Schools remained 10 and that of their pupils declined from 896 to 889.

The number of Primary Schools for girls rose from 2,064 to 2,165 and that of their pupils from 47,774 to 50,347.

The number of Model Girls' Schools remained 36 and the question for the transfer of these schools to the local bodies is still under consideration.

The number of Training classes fell from 9 to 7 owing to the fact that two of the aided Mission classes were closed in December 1915 for one year. The number of pupils was 113 against 111.

In the Badshah Nawab Razvi Training College, 15 Muhammadans and 12 Hindus were under instruction against 13 and 10 in the previous year. The direct expenditure was Rs. 16,335 against Rs. 16,732 in the previous year.

492. The number of recognized European Schools remained nineteen. The number of pupils rose from 1,093 to 1,125, but the expenditure declined from Rs. 2,63,441 to Rs. 2,58,228. **European Schools.**

493. The number of Muhammadan pupils rose from 459 to 551 in Colleges, from 8,079 to 8,536 in Secondary Schools and from 54,875 to 56,488 in special schools, but fell from 35,985 to 33,214 in Primary Schools and from 11,693 to 10,325 in private institutions. There was thus a net decrease of 1,977 pupils. **Muhammadan Education.**

The number of pupils in recognized madrasas remained 1,266, though the number of institutions fell from 16 to 15. The proposals of the Director of Public Instruction for carrying out the recommendations of the Muhammadan Education Committee regarding Madrasa education are still awaited.

494. The number of recognized Sanskrit *tols* rose from 349 to 369 and that of their pupils from 9,581 to 10,292. At the same time the number of unrecognized *tols* fell from 272 to 215 and the number of their pupils from 3,286 to 2,492. The net result is a decrease of 37 in the number of schools and 83 in the number of pupils but this decrease is due to the conversion of *tols* into pathshalas, which were made eligible for the first time during the year for aid from local bodies on condition that the Vernacular curriculum is taught for a limited number of hours in addition to Sanskrit. The most important event of the year, as far as the study of Sanskrit is concerned, was the formation of a Provincial Sanskrit Association to assume the control of Sanskrit examination and institutions in the province. **The study of Sanskrit.**

495. The number of pupils in the Hazaribagh Reformatory School rose from 439 to 461. Of these 278 came from Bengal, 167 from Bihar and Orissa and 16 from Assam. The expenditure rose from Rs. 1,22,792 to Rs. 1,23,035, while the receipts decreased from Rs. 29,650 to Rs. 28,508. The admission of boys belonging to criminal tribes has been prohibited. **Reformatory School.**

496. The number of hostels fell from 469 to 468 while that of their inmates remained the same, viz., 14,455. The expenditure fell from Rs. 5,51,518 to Rs. 5,30,628. **Hostels.**

A hostel in connection with the Ranchi Zila School for the sons of Zamindars in the Chota Nagpur Division was completed during the year.

Physical Training and Moral Instruction.

497. It has been decided not to appoint a whole-time Physical Instructor for the province at present. Arrangements were therefore made as in former years for the training of Drill-Masters at Calcutta under the Young Men's Christian Association.

The experiment of giving moral instruction in undenominational High Schools was continued during the year.

Conferences and Committees.

498. No committees were formed during the year but orders wers passed on the report of the Female Education Committee which met in the preceding year.

Literature and the Press.

[Statistics of British India, Part VII.—Educational.]

Publications registered.

499. The total number of Hindi books published during the year 1915-16 was 262 against 154 during the previous year. The bulk of these consisted of lyrics and works on mythology, religion and miscellaneous subjects. Among these, the following books are worthy of special mention :—(1) ' Charitraka Prabha ' a Hindi translation of Smiles ' Character ', (2) Bharat Shasan Padhati, which is probably the first work on Political Economy in Hindi written in Bihar. 42 books were published in Urdu against 32 during the previous year. The majority of these consisted of works on religion and miscellaneous subjects. None of them call for any special notice. The total number of Oriya books published during the year was 498 against 504 during the previous year. Most of these books consisted of lyrics, school books and works on mythology, religion, poetry, and miscellaneous subjects. Of these two are deserving of notice—(1) Utkal Prakruti, which describes the natural scenery of important places in Orissa and is a reflective and discursive book of some literary merit and (2) Utkal Lakshmi, which is an original poem in good style and discourses on the natural scenery of Orissa and its historic events and achievements in literature.

Newspapers.

500. The number of newspapers and periodicals published during the year was 55 as compared with 60 in 1914 and 57 in 1913. Ten newspapers were started and 15 ceased to exist. Of the latter the *Puri Bari* and the *Star of Utkal* were the most important. Twelve newspapers and periodicals were published in English only, the *Beharee* produced both English and Vernacular editions, and the remaining papers were published in the Vernacular.

Patna, including Bankipore, continues to be the chief centre of press activity. Five papers published in the Vernacular and one published in English reported a circulation of over 1,000.

On the whole the tone of the press was excellent and has been improved by the war, which has tended to obscure petty differences and dissensions, so often the subject of violent and immoderate comment. It was, however, unfortunately necessary to take action under the Press Act against the editor of the *Star of Utkal*, and the publication of this paper ceased on his declining to furnish security.

Scientific and Literary Societies in Bihar and Orissa.

SEE—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PAGE 229.

Arts and Sciences.

Nil.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Archæology.

501. The excavations at Pataliputra which have been undertaken on behalf of Sir Ratan Tata of Bombay are in progress, though the field of operations has been transferred from the Kumrahar site, where the group of Mauryan palaces had to be closed to excavation owing to the proximity of Muhammadan graveyards. This site, moreover, gave but little promise of yielding sculptural or other artistic materials, the acquisition of which was one of the objects in undertaking the excavations, and it was accordingly given up, and the operations carried on elsewhere in Patna. **Pataliputra excavations.**

502. The Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland having placed a sum of £218 at the disposal of the Archæological Department for the exploration of the site of the old Buddhist University at Nalanda, the work was undertaken by Dr. Spooner, the Superintendent of Archæology, Eastern Circle. Portions of walls connected with the buildings of the old Buddhist Monasteries have been uncovered and 603 seals or tablets were found which, though differing in size and decoration, all appeared to bear characteristics of the Buddhist creed. The discovery was also made of a stone structure with interesting mouldings, containing 211 sculptured panels, of which some are of narrative character and others occupied with decorative devices, but all bear clearly the character of the Gupta era. **Nalanda excavations.**

503. The amount of money spent by the Local Government on conservation work was roughly Rs. 8,800. Besides annual repairs to various monuments, some special work was done in connection with the improvement of the tank surrounding the tomb of Sher Shah at Sassaram, the tomb of Hasan Sur Shah, the tomb of Bakhtiar Khan and the Mundeswari temple at Chainpur, and also the caves at Khandgiri and Udaygiri, in Orissa. **Conservation.**

B. & O. G. P. (Rev.) No. 57—429—15-2-1917—H. P. G. & A. W. G.

00133057

Digitized with financial assistance from

Government of Maharashtra

on 01 February, 2020